Thursday, November 20, 2025 No 320 ₹7

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A stone block ready to be carved. PHOTOS BY AUTHOR

A sculptor at work at Shivarapatna in Kolar district.

In Shivarapatna, a craft endures against the odds

Amid mounting challenges, a community of sculptors keeps alive a legacy handed down through generations, writes Niranjana Vanalli

On the Bengaluru–Tirupati highway, just past the Narasapura industrial area in Kolar district, is Shivarapatna, famed for its stone-carving tradition. The village has a little over 400 houses and around 120 of them are engaged in stone sculpting. These artisans have continued the hereditary vocation passed down from their forefathers.

According to local lore, Shivarapatna's stone-carving tradition goes back a thousand years to the Ganga dynasty. Some artisans believe they are descendants of the sculptors who built the famed temples of Belur.

"Earlier, only people from the Vishwakarma community took up idol-making. Now, artisans from many communities have been trained and are practising the craft," says Jagannatha Acharya, a seventh-generation sculptor.

Traditionally, the sculptors carved idols of Hanuman, Ganesha, Vishnu and other deities, strictly adhering to the needs of temple patrons. Today, with survival becoming more complex, the artisans sculpt a variety of stone idols including the busts of national icons. They also make idols in *panchaloha*, an alloy of five metals. Carving a three feet idol typically takes a sculptor at least one-and-a-half months, though the time can extend depending on the intricacy of the design. Most works are made on order, with demand for divine idols coming largely from Karnataka and neighbouring states.

Sculptor Jagannatha Acharya explains the features of an idol.

Idol crafting

The process begins with choosing a suitable stone. Subsequently, the stone block is cut into smaller pieces and the design is sketched onto its surface.

"We carve divine idols strictly according to the time-tested *Shilpa Sutras*, which lay down the measurements, proportions, composition and other guiding principles," explains sculptor Nandakumar.

A rough form is first chiselled out using traditional tools, with some machine assistance. Slowly, the finer details emerge. The sculpture is then smoothened and the finishing touches are done entirely by hand. The eyes, the defining element of the idol, are carved only after the idol is installed in the temple.

Stones from faraway hills

However, the stones that sustain Shivarapatna's craft are not local. Raw blocks arrive from the quarries of Chamarajanagar or the rocky hills of Chitradurga.

"Earlier, we used to source stone from Surya Malleshwara Betta near Vemgal, around 20 km from Shivarapatna. Now, the stone remains only atop the hillock and is hard to bring down. There are also forest department restrictions," says Jagannatha Acharya.

They source *balapa kallu*, a soft grey stone ideal for detailed sculpting, from Chamarajanagar. *Krishnashila*, a harder black stone that rings like iron when struck, is sourced from Chitradurga.

Sculptors take quarry contracts in both regions. One tonne of larger stone costs around Rs 15,000 and transportation costs around Rs 5,000. "Woodcarvers receive timber from government depots at subsidised rates. But we receive no such support despite repeated appeals to successive governments," several artisans lament.

They explain that even after procuring stone from another town or district, there is no guarantee it can be used for sculpting. The *garbha*, a weak patch within the stone, sometimes becomes visible only after carving begins. Such stones cannot be used and the labour and money invested until that point are simply lost.

According to Jagannatha Acharya, they can make only two idols, each about three to three-and-a-half feet tall, from a tonne of stone, as nearly 50% is lost during chiselling. These idols fetch between Rs 50,000 and Rs 75,000 each. The price depends on the sculptor's skill and the level of detailing, but many sell their work for less due to competition. The number of idols per tonne decreases even further when the designs are more intricate. At present, a highly skilled sculptor earns around Rs 5 lakh to Rs 6 lakh annually, including the wages paid to assistants.

A half-finished idol at a workshop.

Another threat now looms over the village. For decades, Shivarapatna's artisans have worked from makeshift sheds on the outskirts, as the dust makes carving indoors impossible. But the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board has begun acquiring land on the village periphery for industrial projects.

In a village where stone carving has flourished for centuries, there is suddenly no space left for the craft.

Youth continue

While many ancient crafts are fading due to a lack of interest in the younger generation, Shivarapatna stands apart. The younger generation here is not abandoning stone carving. They are willing to embrace the uncertainties of the craft and forge a livelihood from it. All they ask for is necessary support that acknowledges their art and enables them to thrive.

For now, Shivarapatna continues to echo with the music of chisel and hammer. But the question hangs in the dust-laden air: will this sound endure?

(Translated from Kannada by Divyashri Mudakavi)

FEEDBACK
Send your ideas and comments to: spectrum@deccanherald.co.in

The scholar who brought the past to light

Kirti Malhotra profiles epigraphist H S Gopala Rao, who uncovered hundreds of ancient inscriptions

One afternoon, I was informed that someone named Gopala Rao had called me. He had some feedback on my article on Gangatirtha which had a mention of *Pada-dare*, a 'foot-print rock sculptured with two pairs of feet'. The article dealt with some carvings and inscriptions on the western side of Shivagange hill in Bengaluru Rural district. I was elated when I realised that the person who called me was Dr H S Gopala Rao, the historian and eminent epigraphist who could 'read stones'. I was delighted when he invited me to his home.

I was eager to meet Gopala Rao in person and learn about his life, his achievements beyond electrical engineering, in which he held a diploma, and his work with state electricity boards in Maharashtra and Karnataka. Alongside those jobs, he completed a Master's degree and wrote a PhD thesis on the Kalyana Chalukyas based on inscriptions.

On April 4, 2024, I took a Nelamangala-bound bus and got down at the Arasinakunte bus stop. Crossing the National Highway 4 through an underpass, I could easily reach his home.

The moment I crossed the threshold, a sense of calmness descended upon me. Hundreds of books lined the hall from floor to ceiling and Gopala Rao sat among them like a hermit in seclusion.

While discussing my article, he showed me the photographs of the *Pada-dare* taken by him in 2011. However, when some of his students went in search of the same place a few years later, they were unable to spot it and thus, he had presumed that the inscription along with the two pairs of feet, believed to be of Honnadevi and Lord Shiva, was lost forever. I was happy that I could retrace them.

Our conversation about Shivagange and the many inscriptions on the hill led him to share an interesting anecdote. Somewhere in the early 1980s, renowned Kannada writer S L Bhyrappa visited Gopala Rao's home to relax. At that time, Bhyrappa expressed a desire to climb the mighty Shivagange hill.

After the difficult climb to the peak, as they rested for a while, taking in the panoramic view and looking at the legendary steep cliff known as the Shantala Drop, Bhyrappa suddenly asked Gopala Rao, "Was K V Iyer right?" He was referring to whether queen Shantala had truly leapt to her death from that cliff, as written in K V Iyer's novel *Shantala*. Gopala Rao had replied in the negative.

Gopala Rao's reply was based on an inscription on the Chikkabetta (Chandragiri) in Shravanabelagola which I was aware of, as I had trekked that hill and had taken photos of that inscription mentioned in *Epigraphia Carnatica* Vol 2 (1923). That long inscription records the death of the Hoysala queen Shantala. However, I could not decipher from the inscription how exactly she died as there was only one line about it which read '*Sivagangeya tirthadalu mudipi Svarggatey adalu*'; the year of death being 1131 AD. Gopala Rao explained that in this context, *tirtha* meant *tirthasthala* (pilgrimage site) and *mudipi* indicates that she had taken the oath of Sallekhana and died at Sivagange *tirthasthala*.

The same inscription gives great details about how Shantala's mother Machikabbe died — 'going to Belugola, adopting severe *sanyasana*, renouncing the world, fasting cheerfully for one month'.

I still wonder why there were only three words, *Sivagangeya tirthadalu mudipi*, about the queen's death.

Living encyclopaedia

Gopala Rao was a living encyclopaedia. He guided many master's and doctoral research works in the fields of epigraphy and history of Karnataka. He had discovered close to 300 inscriptions and studied over 1,000 in Karnataka.

I spent the whole day at his place, listening to his stories of unearthing hundreds of inscriptions.

I was deeply saddened when the news of his death in October 2024 reached me. I consider myself quite fortunate to have met him at least once.

Incidentally, he had pointed out that the place he lived in is actually 'Arasanakunte', though today it has come to be known as 'Arasinakunte'.

H S Gopala Rao with his wife Seethalakshmi. PHOTO BY AUTHOR

Vani Vilasa Sagara springs back to life

After decades of obscurity, Karnataka's oldest reservoir has regained life in recent years attracting visitors, writes M N Yogesh

For decades, Karnataka's oldest reservoir Vani Vilasa Sagara (V V Sagara), built across the Vedavathi river near Marikanive in Chitradurga district, was considered a lake. Some called it a valley, others a check dam and many simply dismissed it as a tank, its lack of crest gates contributing to its perceived modesty.

Built in 1907 by Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar as a tribute to his mother, Maharani Kempananjammanni Vani Vilasa Sannidhana, the reservoir remained largely unnoticed for years. This is because a few years after it was constructed, the river's waters rarely reached it, defeating the vision of its royal patron.

The Vedavathi, originating as a small stream named Gauri in the Bababudangiri hills, gains volume from the confluence of the Veda and Avathi streams. For centuries, it remained seasonal, swelling during the monsoon only to dwindle by summer. The reservoir, nestled between the Marikanive hills near Hosadurga and Hiriyur, rarely received sufficient inflow and its presence faded from public memory beyond Chitradurga district.

That perception changed in 2022. Torrential rains in the Malnad region revived the Vedavathi. The river coursed through Ayyanakere, Madagada Kere and other smaller tanks on the way before surging into Vani Vilasa Sagara. The reservoir filled to the brim, only the second time since its construction and spilled over the overflow duct on its western ridge.

Unlike modern dams which generally have crest gates to release water, Vani Vilasa Sagara releases water only through the overflow duct once its 135 feet capacity is reached. After its first overflow in 1933, the event did not repeat for nearly nine decades, until the monsoon of 2022. Coincidentally, the second overflow occurred on September 2, the very date of its first spill. The force of the release inundated homes and plantations in downstream Hosadurga taluk.

For many, especially the younger generation, seeing the reservoir in full glory was exhilarating. Villagers who had waited a lifetime to see Marikanive brimming again were moved to tears. Aerial images, showing the reservoir shaped like the map of India, circulated widely on social media. Visitors from across the state and beyond flocked to the site, mesmerised by the cascading waters. At last, the long-overlooked reservoir captured public attention.

Farmer leader Echagatta Siddaveerappa recalls Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar's vision to supply water to the drought-prone tracts of central Karnataka. "Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar personally inspected the Marikanive site in 1901. For almost nine decades the reservoir did not get filled as the Vedavathi's upstream flow was barely sufficient even for the chain of tanks and coffee estates in Chikkamagaluru, Kadur and Birur," he said.

The turnaround came after decades of struggle. In 2008, farmers staged a 543-day protest demanding implementation of the Upper Bhadra project. The severe drought of 2017, which wiped out millions of arecanut and coconut trees, intensified their struggle. Finally, pumping of Bhadra water into Vani Vilasa Sagara commenced in 2019. Generous monsoons combined with this intervention steadily raised water levels from 60 ft in 2019 to 102 ft the same year. It reached 106 ft in 2020, 125 ft in 2021 and a full-capacity overflow in 2022. The reservoir spilled again on January 12, 2024, owing to the release of Bhadra water and rain, and for the fourth time on October 19 this year following torrential rains.

Until recently, only devotees of Kanive Maramma shrine located near the reservoir visited this site. But with each overflow, the damsite has begun drawing visitors, even as infrastructure is struggling to keep pace. The area around the reservoir has no hotels or lodges, the garden behind the dam lies neglected, and parking and security are inadequate.

An aerial view of V V Sagara reservoir, resembling the map of India; Visitors watch the grandeur of the reservoir. PHOTOS BY V CHANDRAPPA

The other side

While Hiriyur taluk revels in the reservoir's abundance, downstream villages in Hosadurga have begun facing floods. Farmers who cultivated on the dry riverbed and built houses when the Vedavathi was dry for decades now struggle against the surging waters. Officials note that compensation was paid during the original submergence a century ago. To regulate overflows once water levels exceed 130 feet, a plan to install crest gates at a cost of Rs 124 crore has been approved. Implementation is underway.

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Nitish elected NDA Legislature Party leader; swearing-in today

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DKS hints he'll quit as Cong chief, says will be on frontline

Dy CM says can't be around forever, but will be in leadership

BENGALURU, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar hinted on Wednesday that he would have to step down as the Karnataka Congress president, but assured his party colleagues that he will be "in leadership" and "on the frontline".

Shivakumar was speaking at a Congress event to mark former prime minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary.

"Whether I am around or not is immaterial. But I want to set up 100 new party offices under my tenure," Shivakumar said.

When party workers in the audience objected to his expression of uncertainty, Shivakumar said: "I can't be around permanently. It is already 5.5 years. In March, it will be six years. Others must be given an opportunity."

Shivakumar was named as the Karnataka Congress president in March 2020. "But don't worry," Shivakumar said. "I will be in leadership. I will be there on the front line."

He said he wanted to quit as the party's president when he was appointed as deputy chief minister in May 2023.

▸ DKS, Page 5

Siddu: Will present my 17th Budget

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said he would present his record 17th Budget next year, thus ruling out any change in leadership until then.

Details on Page 5

State to get Rs 2.6k-cr tech investment push

Potential for 3,500 jobs in semicon, EV, biotech sectors

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka government has signed letters of intent (LOIs) for investments worth Rs 2,600 crore with companies such as Drone Federation of India, Global HDI and Eyestem Research, which have the potential to generate 3,500 direct and indirect jobs.

These investments will be across key sectors such as semiconductor, EV battery and biotech, IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge announced on Wednesday on the sidelines of the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2025.

The minister also announced signing of various MoUs, including one with semiconductor company Marvell to train 90 women in semiconductor-VLSI design and embedded skills.

KEONICS Chairman Sharath Kumar Bache Gowda said the LoI with the Drone Federation of India, which has committed Rs 25-100 crore investment, is to set up a drone testing facility at Chintamani.

A police dog barks at a robotic dog at the Bengaluru Tech Summit in Bengaluru. DH Photo/Prashanth H G

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Letters of intent signed in key sectors such as **semicon**, **EV battery** and **biotech**
- Proposals include setting up of a **drone-testing facility** at Chintamani (Rs 25-100 cr)
- **PCB plant** and electronics manufacturing facility (Rs 1,500 cr)
- Cell therapy and **R&D manufacturing** facility (Rs 130 cr)
- MoU with semiconductor firm to **train women in semiconductor-VLSI** design and embedded skills

The Drone Federation of India will bring in companies to utilise the facility. Global HDI will establish a multi-layer printed circuit boards plant with an investment of Rs 1,500 crore.

The LoIs also include Eyestem Research's cell therapy and R&D manufacturing facility with an investment outlay of Rs 130 crore.

▸ LoIs, Page 5

'B'luru now AI capital'

Bengaluru has turned into the AI and quantum computing capital of India, attracting 58% of AI startup funding in 5 years, a report said.

Details on Page 12

Al-Falah chairperson had incentive to flee India, says ED

NEW DELHI, DHNS & PTI : The Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday claimed that Al-Falah group chairperson Jawad Ahmed Siddiqui, who was arrested in a money laundering case, had "incentives" to flee India as his close family is settled in the Gulf, even as a court sent him to 13 days' custody.

The ED told the court that Siddiqui allegedly received around Rs 415.10 crore "dishonestly" from students of institutes run by his Trust by claiming NAAC accreditation and UGC recognition.

He was produced before Additional Sessions Judge Sheetal Chaudhary Pradhan at her residence around midnight and the court proceedings lasted till 1 am. The ED sought 14-day custody but the court granted 13-day custody till December 1.

Siddiqui was taken into custody on Tuesday following searches at 19 premises.

▸ Al-Falah, Page 5

'Plotter wanted separate South India'

Hyderabad resident Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed (35), held on charges of plotting a ricin terror strike allegedly wanted to "separate south India from the rest of the country". Page 8

Execute will to avoid litigation: SC tells women

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Wednesday urged all married women, particularly Hindu women, who have no children or are widows to consider executing a registered will if they want their property to go to their family, saying that a will is essential to avoid potential litigations between their parents and in-laws.

A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan, while referring to the Hindu Succession Act, said that in 1956, the Parliament had thought that there may not be many women in this country who would have self-acquired property.

Details on Page 8

Sacrifice? Woman hacked by mom

In a suspected case of human sacrifice, a woman allegedly tried to slaughter her married daughter before a temple deity in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

The daughter suffered grievous injuries to her neck. She is being treated at a private hospital, where her condition is critical, the police said.

Sarojamma (55) swung a machete at Rekha (25) at the temple on Thanisandra Main Road. Page 3

IED expert among 7 Maoists killed in AP

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Seven Maoists were killed in an encounter with security forces in a forest area in the Alluri Seetharamaraju district of Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday morning, officials said.

District Police Superintendent Amit Bardar said one of the deceased has been identified as IED expert Metturu Jogarao alias Tech Shankar.

Details on Page 8

BENGALURU CRIME

Gang posing as RBI officials pulls off Rs 7-cr heist

BENGALURU, DHNS

In a novel heist, a six-member gang made away with Rs 7.11 crore from a cash van in southern Bengaluru on a busy Wednesday afternoon — one of the biggest robberies the city has ever seen.

Police said the gang arrived in a grey metallic Toyota Innova and intercepted a CMS Info System cash van near the Ashoka Pillar in Jayanagar between 12.30 pm and 1 pm.

CMS, a private firm, collects and transports cash for banks.

The van, carrying cash from HDFC Bank's JP Nagar branch, was headed towards Lalbagh's Siddapura Gate.

The Innova bore a registration number (KA 03 NC8052) belonging to a Maruti Suzuki Swift VDI, with 'Govt of India' embossed on its rear window in red bold capital letters.

The grey metallic Toyota Innova used by the robbers.

The robbers introduced themselves as Reserve Bank of India officials and told the four-member crew — driver Binod Kumar, cash custodian Aftab and armed guards Rajanna and Thammaiah — that they needed to inspect the vehicle.

▸ Cash heist, Page 5

Robbers will be caught soon: HM

Home Minister G Parameshwara said the police would track down the suspects soon. "Such an incident never occurred in broad daylight in Bengaluru...The case has been taken seriously," he said.

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CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in karnataka information

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

RR Institutions: Inauguration of district-level cultural competition; Rajareddy Layout, near Chikkabanavara Railway Station; 9.30 am.

Seshadripuram College: OISCA Global Summit, inauguration by HK Patil; Seshadripuram; 9.30 am.

Sree Thyagaraja Co-Op Bank Ltd: 72nd All India Cooperative Week Celebration's valedictory function; APS College, NR Colony; from 5 pm onwards.

Ondede: 12th anniversary celebrations; Book release 'Yaaru sooleyaru' by Akkai Padmashali; staging of the play 'Hasivu Kanasu Part-2'; Nayana Auditorium, Kannada Bhavan, JC Road; 10 am onwards.

Vachana Jyothi Balaga: Makkala Vachana Mela; Kalagrama, Mallathahalli; 9.30 am.

Abbas Khan College for Women: Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations; Cubbonpet; 11.30 am.

Hamsajyoti Trust: Inauguration of Kannada Naada Habba; Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology; from 9 am onwards.

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan: 'Santavani' – Films, books, lectures, music, dance, drama and seminars; lectures: 'Saints of the Thanjavur Region" by Sudha Seshaiyan; "Saints of the Kerala Region" by Achyut Shankar "Message of Christ" by Peter Machado, "Message of Islam" by Umar TK; Carnatic Music: Vocals by Nithyasree Mahadevan; Khincha Auditorium, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Race Course Road; from 10 am onwards.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Partly cloudy sky

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	28.0°C
Minimum	19.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	79%
Sunset (Nov 20)	5:50 pm
Sunrise (Nov 21)	6:20 am
Moonrise	5:22 am
Moonset	5:03 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Final notification: Bengaluru's 5 corporations to have 369 wards

Third attempt in a decade to redraw ward boundaries

BENGALURU, DHNS

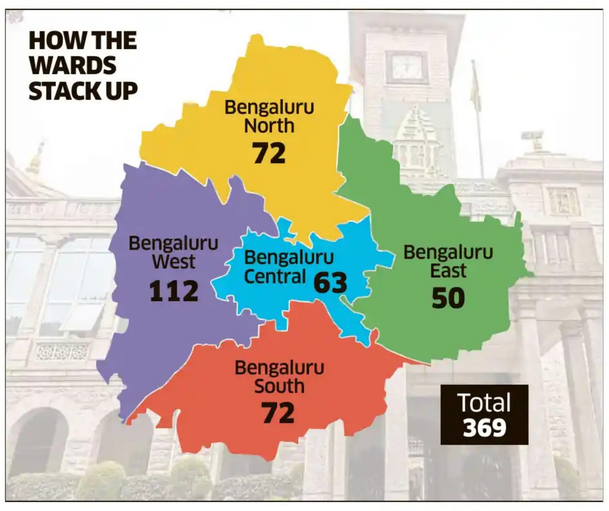
The state government on Wednesday issued the final notification demarcating wards for the five newly formed city corporations in the Greater Bengaluru area.

This is the third major attempt in a decade to redraw ward boundaries, which were earlier increased from 198 to 243 before being reduced to 225.

As per the final notification, the five corporations will together have 369 wards, a sharp rise from the 198 wards in place during the 2015 municipal elections. This is an increase of 171 wards.

Despite the expansion, the overall jurisdictional area remains unchanged, with existing boundaries now split into smaller administrative units.

The Greater Bengaluru Governance Act 2024, in force since May 15, 2025, introduced a three-tier system: the Greater Bengaluru Authority as the apex body, five municipal corporations replacing the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), and ward committees at the local level.



A ward delimitation committee chaired by GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao was tasked with drawing boundaries based on the 2011 census and updated population data. The committee recommended 368 wards, with the government adding one more in the final notification.

Intense contests

With smaller ward sizes, civic polls are expected to see more intense contests.

The move has been welcomed by prospective candidates and several citizen groups, who believe smaller wards will improve service delivery and accountability. The BJP has opposed the split of the BBMP and is challenging the decision legally.

AAP forms 27-member panel as parties gear up for civic polls

BENGALURU, DHNS: With elections to the five newly carved city corporations expected soon, political parties have begun preparing to maximise their seat share.

On Wednesday, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) announced a 27-member committee to lead its campaign.

The panel will be headed by AAP working president Seetharam Gundappa, with V Lakshmikanth Rao as vice-president. AAP state president Mukhyamantri Chandru, Prakash Nedungadi, Jagadish V Sadam, Ashok Mruthyunjay, and Anil Nachappa are among the members.

Chandru accused the three major parties of delaying municipal polls, saying the city's infrastructure had "deteriorated" and caused daily hardship.

AAP leader Prithvi Reddy said the party, which has its origins in Bengaluru, aims to deliver "world-class public education, healthcare and civic infrastructure through accountable governance".

Smaller wards, bigger battles

With ward sizes now smaller than in 2015, the elections are expected to see a high-stakes contest.

Hebbal tunnel must be scrapped, civic group asserts

Against splurging of Rs 1,400 cr on 2.3-km project

BENGALURU, DHNS

Citizens for Citizens (C4C) has urged the Karnataka government to drop its proposal for a new 2.3-km, two-way tunnel at Hebbal, saying the project is unnecessary.

With metro and suburban rail lines to the airport under construction, the group said multiple major projects, including the Namma Metro's Blue and Pink lines, and two suburban rail corridors would be operational well before the tunnel is completed, easing pressure on the junction.

The group opposed spending around Rs 1,400 crore on the tunnel.

In a detailed note released on Wednesday, C4C founder Rajkumar Dugar urged the government to prioritise safer, cheaper and proven solutions.

He argued that airport-bound car traffic, not inadequate road infrastructure, is the main cause of congestion at Hebbal.

The note listed several challenges with the tunnel plan: four sharp curves within a short stretch, a higher risk of gridlock near Mehkri Circle, major drainage issues since Hebbal is a low-lying area, disruptions from extensive cut-and-cover excavation, and the likelihood of cost and time overruns.

The group also pointed to possible conflicts with upcoming railway and metro alignments.

It warned that construction on the busy Hebbal–Mehkri corridor could severely hamper airport access.

Dugar said ongoing measures, including flyover ramp redesigns, road widening, alternate airport routes and the proposed Hebbal Multi-Modal Hub, offer more sustainable ways to ease traffic.

Robotic tech has put BWSSB on national map, says DyCM

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Wednesday praised the BWSSB for adopting robotic technology to detect illegal water connections and ensure clean drinking water supply.

He inaugurated the newly formed 'Blue Force' and the Robotic Technology Deployment Programme designed to detect illegal connections and leakages.

"The government is responsible for providing clean drinking water to the people of Bengaluru. The BWSSB is adopting new technologies to achieve this. As the only water utility in the country with BIS certification, the board has become a model for India," he said.

Shivakumar directed officials to take strict action against anyone with unauthorised water connections, regardless of whether they are rich, poor or business owners.

He added, "The BWSSB must detect and rectify contamination quickly. Bengaluru residents should not have to depend on water cans."

The BWSSB demonstrated how the robotic AI system identifies leakages inside pipelines and sends real-time data to the BWSSB dashboard for rapid response. Shivakumar observed the demonstration and instructed the board to implement the system in field operations without delay.

BWSSB Chairman Ramprasath Manohar V said, "Our goal is to provide clean drinking water. We had to dig roads in multiple places earlier to trace contamination; this technology eliminates that problem.

"The robotic system will scan pipelines, locate the exact issue, and roads will be dug only where repairs are needed. Issues can be resolved within 24 hours."

"With robotic technology and strict enforcement, we will identify all violations. This initiative aims to reduce Bengaluru's 28% water loss caused by leakages and illegal connections," he said.

He added that 16 Blue Force units, one in each division with three members per team, will begin operations this week to detect illegal connections, impose penalties and regularise connections where required.

Mantri Mall sealed over Rs 30-crore tax dues

BENGALURU, DHNS: For the first time since the Bengaluru City Central Corporation came into existence, the civic body sealed Mantri Mall, a popular shopping destination in Malleswaram, after the establishment failed to clear property tax arrears of Rs 30 crore.

The action followed the mall management's failure to respond to multiple notices, officials said.

Rajendra Cholan

It is learnt that the mall received a stay from the high court after it promised to pay about Rs 13 crore in three weeks. Subsequently, the corporation allowed the mall to continue operations. The court may also consider the demand for additional tax dues issued by the authorities.

Mantri Mall has repeatedly drawn the ire of revenue officials for defaulting on property tax. Corporation sources said that revenue generated by the mall is routed directly to the banks for loan repayment, leaving officials unable to recover pending dues.

Meanwhile, corporation commissioner P Rajendra Cholan said they had identified several commercial establishments with dues exceeding Rs 5 lakh.

"There is now a provision to seal buildings, and we will enforce it going forward," he said.

Cholan said under-declaration of property size by commercial establishments is widespread.

Inspection in Indiranagar

Citing a recent field inspection along Indiranagar's 100 Feet Road in CV Raman Nagar, P Rajendra Cholan, Commissioner of Bengaluru City Central Corporation, said: "We had deployed 25 revenue officials from other divisions. They inspected 182 buildings and identified tax deviations worth Rs 9 crore. Notices have been issued to all of them."

Similar inspections will be carried out in areas such as Chickpet and Commercial Street, Cholan said.

Engineers' body endorses tunnel road project

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Institution of Engineers India (IEI) on Wednesday extended support to the proposed 17-km tunnel road between Central Silk Board and Hebbal, saying the project is essential to ease Bengaluru's traffic congestion.

At an event on Ali Askar Road, IEI secretary M Lakshmana submitted a report to Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, outlining the technical and financial viability of the project.

"We welcome the decision to build a tunnel road. The city's traffic congestion cannot be cleared without it," the letter said, pointing to the daily registration of around 3,500 vehicles in Bengaluru and the city's rapid expansion.

Lakshmana said tunnel roads are not new, citing projects taken up in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, and Maharashtra. "The estimated cost of constructing the Bengaluru tunnel road is Rs 446 crore per km. Since the project is expected to be developed through a public–private partnership, the government's investment would be negligible," the letter stated.

The proposed design, it added, would allow vehicles to enter and exit from national highways without merging with surface-level traffic.

Calling Bengaluru one of the most congested cities in the world, Lakshmana argued only tunnel roads or multi-layered flyovers can provide substantial decongestion and urged the government to adopt data-driven modelling to optimise traffic flow. "The decision taken by the government is technically correct," the report concluded.

Mobility experts, while acknowledging technical feasibility, have questioned the necessity of the project, noting that the proposed alignment overlaps with an upcoming metro corridor that can carry more people and has a longer shelf life than tunnel roads.

Rs 613-cr road sweeper rental gets approval

BENGALURU, DHNS: Despite mounting questions over the proposal to rent mechanical road-sweeping machines for Rs 613 crore, the state government on Wednesday issued an order formally approving the Cabinet's decision.

The order says the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will hire the machines for seven years to maintain arterial and sub-arterial roads.

While the cost is pegged at Rs 613.25 crore, the government has not specified how many machines will be hired; officials suggest the number may be around 46.

The five newly carved corporations have been tasked with floating tenders and bearing the cost. They have also been directed to ensure the rented machines do not duplicate work already being done by existing equipment or future schemes.

Opposition parties, including the BJP and JD(S), have slammed the plan, calling the rental cost unusually high. Their criticism follows recommendations by a government-appointed three-member committee to purchase the machines outright, while a private consultant suggested a hybrid model with 40% upfront payment and performance-linked payouts.

The GBA opted for a full rental approach, arguing that the capital cost of purchase would be too high. Officials say Rs 613 crore is only an upper ceiling and that the final cost will be set through competitive bidding.

Defending the proposal, the GBA noted that cities such as Patna, Mohali, Bhubaneswar and Pune spend between Rs 1,350 and Rs 923 per kilometre on mechanical sweeping, while its projected cost of Rs 894/km is among the lowest.

The plan has also found support.

RK Misra, co-founder of Yulu, backed the rental model, saying owning and operating such machines requires specialised expertise.

Entrepreneur Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw echoed the view, adding that the outsourcing document will be made public and urged citizens to understand the realities of operating such machines.

Spoken Kannada classes

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Kannada Prasaara Parishat has started online spoken Kannada classes in two batches.

The Basic Spoken Kannada Class Batch-1, which began on November 2, will conclude in the second week of January. The classes are held on Fridays (7.30 pm to 9 pm) and Sundays (10.30 am to noon).

Batch-2, which began on November 4, will end in the second week of January. The classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays (7.30 pm to 9 pm).

Each batch will have 30 hours of classes spread over 20 sessions. Both batches will continue only if at least 20 participants register.

Contact BV Raghavan at 9448878569 for details.

City police use AI to curb post-10 pm cracker bursts

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru police have successfully used Artificial Intelligence (AI) to track and identify incidents of firecracker bursting across the city.

Over 2,000 such incidents were detected in five days during Deepavali, with 41% occurring after 10 pm.

The initiative used the city's extensive Safe City surveillance network, comprising cameras and Integrated Command and Control Centre infrastructure.

A Firecracker Detection Video AI app analysed live streams from over 200 cameras located in high-density areas such as Srirampuram, KR Market, HSR Layout, Haralur and Marathahalli.

"The AI algorithms were designed to detect firecracker flashes, smoke and crowd hyperactivity in real time, automatically generating alert packets containing location, timestamp and visual evidence. These alerts were sent instantly to the Command Control via WhatsApp, enabling police operators to verify events and coordinate immediate field responses," said Kuldeep Kumar Jain, Joint Commissioner of Police (Administration).

Thanks to the initiative, police can proactively reduce late-night firecracker bursts, significantly reducing noise and air pollution. DH FILE PHOTO

The areas were selected based on high population density and earlier complaints of large-scale cracker bursting after 10 pm.

The Supreme Court prohibits bursting crackers after 10 pm. Until now, police depended on complaints from the public to act against persons bursting crackers after 10 pm.

"The Hoysala teams would reach as and when complaints were received. With the AI module integrated with our cameras, the Hoysala teams get an alert as soon as such an incident is identified. This helps us to act quickly and prevents further bursting of crackers," Kuldeep added.

The initiative has helped police proactively prevent large-scale bursting of crackers after 10 pm and has significantly reduced noise and air pollution, police said.

Top SWR official inspects railway projects in city

BENGALURU, DHNS: The South Western Railways' senior-most official inspected the KSR Bengaluru-Whitefield section on Wednesday, including the ongoing station redevelopment works.

SWR General Manager Mukul Saran Mathur at Bengaluru Cantonment.

At KSR Bengaluru, SWR General Manager Mukul Saran Mathur inspected the station premises and reviewed the ongoing pitline construction, advising officials to ensure timely completion.

At Bengaluru Cantonment, he inspected the Rs 480-crore station redevelopment and instructed the officials to complete the project within the stipulated deadline.

The SWR's top official also reviewed the quadrupling work between Bengaluru Cantonment and Whitefield (19 km). The Rs 492.8-crore project has faced delays due to land acquisition. The SWR has promised to quadruple the Cantonment-Baiyappanahalli section by December and the entire section by March 2026.

DECADE-LONG DELAY

Malleswaram flower market to open soon with modern facilities

The new market will host local fruit and flower vendors on the ground floor, while the first to fifth floors have been developed in a modern mall style.
DH PHOTOS/BK JANARDHAN

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

Nearly a decade after work began, the Malleswaram flower market is set to open soon, with the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) planning to finish construction within the next two months.

The market will house local fruit and flower vendors, but features a mall-style design. Vendors will operate from the ground floor, while the first to fifth floors have been developed as a mall. Once construction is finished, the BDA plans to hand over operations to a management company through a tender process.

"All vendors will be allotted shops on the ground floor, which can accommodate 188 vendors. From the first floor upward, the building will have a mall-like design. A tender will be issued to appoint a property manager to handle operations," said a senior BDA official.

SHANTHAMMA
Flower vendor

"We were told the work would be completed in two or three years. However, for 10 years they have kept pushing it. Since the market closed and we moved out, footfall has decreased drastically, and many vendors closed their businesses.

The lower and upper basements together can accommodate 323 cars. The BDA has constructed a multi-level car park beside the market, with space for 280 cars. "This will solve the parking problem in Malleswaram. It can provide parking for 600 cars," the official added.

However, vendors said the delay in completing the project had affected their business, and many had shut shop owing to losses.

"We were told the work would be completed in two or three years. However, for 10 years they have kept pushing it. Since the market closed and we moved out, footfall has decreased drastically, and many vendors closed their businesses," said Shanthamma, a flower vendor.

The project, planned in 2012, could not start until 2015 owing to delays in vacating vendors. Although work was to be completed by 2018, contractor disputes and Covid lockdowns delayed progress, BDA officials said.

"Now, except for the front elevation, ramp work, and some final touches, almost all the work is complete. We need statutory permissions from Bescom, the pollution control board, and fire safety department.

"All of this will take some time, and we hope to finish by the end of January 2026," said another BDA official.

Budget escalation

The initial project cost was pegged at Rs 132 crore, but delays have escalated it to nearly Rs 150 crore.

Woman tries to kill daughter at temple in 'human sacrifice' bid

Machete attack carried out based on astrologer's advice, say cops

BENGALURU, DHNS

In a suspected case of human sacrifice, a woman allegedly tried to slaughter her married daughter before a temple deity in northeastern Bengaluru early Wednesday.

The daughter suffered grievous injuries to her neck. She is being treated at a private hospital, where her condition is critical, police said.

Around 4.30 am, Sarojamma, 55, and her 25-year-old daughter Rekha arrived at Harihareshwara Temple at Agrahara Layout, off Thanisandra Main Road.

After praying, Sarojamma made Rekha sit.

Then, all of a sudden, she pulled out a machete and swung it at her neck, wounding her grievously.

Rekha's screams alerted passersby, who intervened and pulled Sarojamma away. Police arrived soon after and rushed the profusely bleeding Rekha to hospital.

"The incident has been captured on CCTV cameras. We are reviewing the footage. Both women had come to the temple together, and their behaviour appears strange," a police officer close to the investigation told *DH*.

While Sarojamma is reticent about the incident, police are waiting for Rekha's recovery to question her and piece together the events.

Rekha lives with her husband Somashekar, a weaver by profession, in Anekal, while Sarojamma resides in Sampigehalli with her father, who is in his 80s.

Rekha often quarelled with her husband and returned to her mother. Both women had been performing special puja to address her marital problems.

Sarojamma had recently consulted an astrologer, who had suggested that she performance a human sacrifice during a specific hour. Police are trying to trace the astrologer and question him, the officer said.

Student extorted after trio threatens her pet cat

Cops obtain footage showing movement of accused

MANJUNATH SHETTAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

A 25-year-old law student living alone in Electronics City was forced to transfer money at knife point after three men allegedly held her pet cat hostage during a robbery.

Police said three unidentified men barged into her flat on Monday around 7 pm. One of them repeatedly knocked on the door and, once she opened it, snatched her phone as two others entered and began ransacking the house.

When they failed to find any valuables, they allegedly threatened to harm her cat and compelled her to transfer Rs 5,100 via UPI. They forced her to reveal her bank account details and questioned her about her balance.

After searching the flat for nearly half an hour, one of the men tried to snatch her gold jewellery.

She raised an alarm, prompting the trio to flee.

Electronic City police said they have obtained CCTV footage showing the movements of the accused and are confident of tracking them down.

Speaking to *DH*, the victim said she had recently moved into the apartment at Neeladri Nagar after completing her law course and was living alone with her two-and-a-half-month-old cat.

She said the prime accused barged into the flat, grabbed her pet and threatened to kill it if she did not hand over her valuables. "When I told them I had nothing to give, they checked both my bank accounts and forced me to transfer money," she said.

'Building had no guard'

"As one of them tried to snatch my diamond earrings, I started screaming and they ran away fearing they would be caught.

"I rushed down and alerted our building owner, who called the police. The building has no security guard, but it has CCTV cameras.

"Police have recovered the footage as part of the investigation," she said.

Pvt firm employee ends life after blackmail by dating friend; police arrest suspect

MANJUNATH SHETTAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

A private firm employee died by suicide in Hennur after allegedly being blackmailed by a man she had befriended on social media.

Police on Wednesday arrested the suspect, Nandagopal Mohan, 27, from Vellore, Tamil Nadu, on charges of abetment to suicide.

According to a complaint filed by the victim's mother, the family had visited Vellore four months ago to attend a function, where the suspect met the victim and asked her to accept his friend request on ShareChat. The two stayed in touch over the phone, and he allegedly convinced her that he was in love with her.

Police said Mohan soon began exerting control over her, pressuring her to chat and call regularly. He allegedly invited her to his home in Vellore, where he spiked her juice with sedatives, recorded private photos and videos, and later used them to threaten and blackmail her. When she tried to distance herself, he reportedly uploaded some of the images on social media, causing her severe emotional distress.

About a week ago, he allegedly sent her private photos to her siblings, who confronted her and advised her to inform the family. Unable to bear the humiliation and fearing further exposure, the woman consumed pills on November 13 while alone at home. She was rushed to a nearby hospital and later shifted to Victoria Hospital, where she remained under treatment until she died on Tuesday.

After receiving her body following the post-mortem, the family approached Hennur police seeking strict action against Mohan, alleging that he mentally tortured her by sending obscene messages and misusing her personal images and videos.

Police break up commotion near Vidhana Soudha

BENGALURU, DHNS: The city police swiftly intercepted a commotion involving a group of people from Nepal near the Vidhana Soudha on Sunday evening, officials said.

According to the police, the group suddenly began arguing, which then escalated into a melee. Officers suspect a personal issue was the motive.

A video of the incident went viral on social media.

"The beat police personnel intervened within a few seconds, controlled the situation, dispersed the crowd and brought the situation back to normal.

A suo motu case has been registered at the Vidhana Soudha police station, and efforts are on to identify and arrest the suspects.

Woman alleges threat to kidnap minor daughters over husband's financial dispute

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 32-year-old woman has filed a complaint with the Madanayakanahalli police, alleging that four people, who claimed to be sharpshooters, threatened to kidnap her minor daughters and sell them into human trafficking over a financial dispute involving her husband.

A senior police officer said her husband, Mohin M, had collected money from several people on the promise of returning double the amount.

When he failed to repay within the agreed period, the Indore police picked him up for investigation after a case was filed against him.

In her complaint filed on November 15, the woman said she had been facing continuous harassment, threats and extortion from people linked to her husband's financial dealings.

She told the police she received threatening phone calls and WhatsApp messages from several numbers, including that of a woman, warning that her children would be abducted and their property seized if dues were not cleared.

The accused, from Madhya Pradesh, also threatened to record the family's personal moments and share it on social media.

Police protection

Fearing for her daughters' safety, the woman approached the police seeking protection. Police said they have identified the accused and initiated legal action.

46-year-old woman faces threats with morphed images over Rs 2,000 loan

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 46-year-old woman was harassed and threatened with her morphed photographs over a loan of Rs 2,000, officials said.

The FIR stated that the woman from Nehrupuram downloaded the Rup Credit App on November 5 and availed a loan of Rs 2,000. To obtain the loan, she shared her details on the app.

Subsequently, the woman was made to pay Rs 5,734 along with interest. She alleged that the callers further demanded Rs 8,000 and sent her morphed photographs to her phone.

"A probe is underway," the police said.

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BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender / EMD (in Rs.)	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	South West - 1	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025	Rs. 78,02,275/- / Rs. 1,56,100/-	29.11.2025 upto 4:00 p.m.	01.12.2025 after 4:05 p.m.
2		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025	Rs. 65,39,814/- / Rs. 1,30,800/-		
3		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025	Rs. 65,84,275/- / Rs. 1,31,700/-		
4		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A))	Rs. 57,20,994/- / Rs. 57,300/-		
5		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A))	Rs. 70,81,099/- / Rs. 70,900/-		
6		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A))	Rs. 33,57,044/- / Rs. 33,600/-		
7		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 71,64,072/- / Rs. 71,700/-		
8		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 32,22,354/- / Rs. 32,300/-		
9		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for CAT-I)	Rs. 21,95,314/- / Rs. 25,000/-		
10		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/3997/2025-26 DATED: 18.11.2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A))	Rs. 30,94,727/- / Rs. 31,000/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-West)-1.

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/RA/3911/2025-26

HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BENGALURU-01

No.HCC/HCE.220/2021 E-Comp. No.10 Date: 18.11.2025
File No.HCKBLRHCC0EOIT/2/2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The High Court of Karnataka invites tender for engaging tax consultant for direct/ indirect tax matters in the High Court of Karnataka through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Centre for e-Governance, Bengaluru.

The last date to upload the tender is fixed as on **18.12.2025 at 4:00 p.m.** For more details visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/search Tender/ live** website.

Sd/-
(N.G.Dinesh)
Registrar (Computers) and
Tender Inviting & Accepting Authority,
High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3904/MAA/25–26

THE RAICHUR & KOPPAL DISTRICT CENTRAL CO OPERATIVE BANK LTD., RAICHUR

Ref: RKDCC/HO/MANVI-KAVITAL/ Date :19/11/2025

e-Procurement Tender Notice

The Raichur and Koppal District Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Raichur invites e-Tender reference no: RDCCB/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT7"TENDER FOR PROPOSED INTERIOR DESIGN OF BRANCH BUILDING FOR RKDCC BANK IN PLOT No.11-4-390 SITUATED AT MANVI AND KAVITAL DIST-RAICHUR " Tender Schedule and details can be obtained from KPPPortal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- **(M B Pujar)** Chief Executive Officer
R K D C C BANK Ltd., Raichur.

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION

Karnataka State Health & Family Welfare Society
Arogya Soudha, 1st Floor, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 23
Ph: 080-23295103 e-mail: pdrch-hfws@karnataka.gov.in

No: NHM/DD/IMM/15/2025-26 (E-1964738) Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER Through e-Procurement

"For Supply of Indelible Polio Marker Pens for Pulse Polio Program"

National Health Mission (NHM) invites tender for Manufacturers/Authorized Dealer to participate with necessary documents for **Supply of Indelible Polio Marker Pens for Pulse Polio Program under National Health Mission.**

Tender No: NHM/2025-26/IND0037

The detailed notification regarding eligibility and other details can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The tender document can be downloaded through e-procurement portal from **19.11.2025** onwards and last date for receipt of tender is on or before **28.11.2025 at 05.30pm.**

Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during the office hours from **11:00 am to 05:30 pm.**

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/3915/SA/2025-26 **Project Director (RCH)**

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY

Office of the Chief Health Officer (PH), Annex-3, Ground Floor, GBA Head Office, Bengaluru-02

No: GBA/2025-26/IND0001/0002/0003 Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Greater Bengaluru Authority invites tender from eligible bidders for Short Term Re-Tender for the supply of 243-Refrigerator-180-200 liters, 243-Centrifuge and Vaccine 230-storage Vaccine Carrier Storage Cold Box to Namma Clinics of Five Corporations under GBA

Following is event of bid process:

(1) Tender Reference No.: **GBA/2025-26/IND0001/0002/0003.** **(2)** Date of commencement of download of tender document from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in: 19.11.2025** onwards. **(3)** Date, time & venue of pre-bid meeting: **24.11.2025** at **11:30 a.m.** at the following venue: Special Commissioner Health Chamber, Third Floor, Annex-3 Building, N R Square, Bengaluru-560002. **(4)** Last date and time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **24.11.2025** upto **5:00 p.m.** **(5)** Last date and time for uploading of eTender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **03.12.2025** upto **5:00 p.m.** **(6)** Date and time of online opening of Technical bids in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **04.12.2025, 5:30 p.m.** **(7)** Date and time of Demonstration of Sample submission: **Shall be intimated after Technical bid opening.** **(8)** Address for Communication: **Chief Health Officer (Public Health), Office of the CHO Ground Floor, Annexe-2 Building, N R Square, Bengaluru - 560002. Email: choph515@gmail.com, Phone: 9845208571.**

Prospective Service Providers willing to participate in this tender can download the bid documents with visiting the web (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Sd/-, Chief Health Officer (Public Health)
Greater Bengaluru Authority

Government of Karnataka

Directorate of Health & Family Welfare Services,

Arogya Soudha, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560 023.
e-mail: ddehospital-hfws@karnataka.gov.in, Phone No: 080-23295623

No. Recruitment-under state budget/17/2023-24(E-1133294) Date: 19.11.2025

Walk-In-Interview

The Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services invites suitable interested candidates for the walk-in interview to the following post.

The post is temporary and purely on contractual basis upto **31-03-2026** and based on the performance the contract period will be extended. The interested candidates should bring all the original documents along with one set of self-attested photocopies of certificates, passport size photographs and valid identity proof.

The interested candidates shall register their name on **28.11.2025 between 10.00 am to 11.00 am** for the respective post mentioned below:

Sl. No	Post name	Number of Vacancies	Qualification	Experience	Date, time & Location of Walk-in-interview
1	Help Desk	01	B.sc (CS) /BCA BE (CS / IT) / B.Tech (CS / IT) / MCA	**1)** Minimum 2 years working experience in the Help Desk platform. **2)** Spoken/Written Kannada is Mandatory	Walk-in-interview date: **28-11-2025 at 11.00 am.** Location: 6th floor, Meeting Hall Directorate of Health and FW Services, Arogya Soudha, Bengaluru.

For additional details regarding the post, qualification, age and salary details please visit: **https://hfwcom.karnataka.gov.in/**

* Note approved by Commissioner, HFWS.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/3923/Zen/2025-26 **Deputy Director (e-Health)**

LOOKING FOR JOB OPPORTUNITY

Refer Classifieds on Wednesday

ಹಿಂದೂ ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಧರ್ಮಾದಾಯ ದತ್ತಿಗಳ ಇಲಾಖೆ

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ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ,
ಎಸ್. ಕರಿಯಪ್ಪ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560070, ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080– 26714989
Email: sribanashankaritemple@gmail.com

ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಟಿ/ಅ.ವ/ಸಿಆರ್.06/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.11.2025

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಕರಿಯಪ್ಪ ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀ ಬನಶಂಕರಿ ದೇವಾಲಯದ ದಾಸೋಹಕ್ಕೆ ಪಾತ್ರೆ ಪರಿಕರಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಧರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳವರು ದಿನಾಂಕ:29/11/2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30ರೊಳಗೆ ಮುಚ್ಚಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಮತ್ತು ಶ್ರೀ ಬನಶಂಕರಿ ದೇವಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅನುಪಯುಕ್ತ ಕಬ್ಬಿಣ ಅಲ್ಯುಮಿನಿಯಂ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ಲಾಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ:29–11–25 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 12–00ಕ್ಕೆ ದೇವಾಲಯದ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು ಮೂಲಕ ವಿಲೇ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು ಆಸಕ್ತರು ಇಸ್ತಿಹಾರ್‌ನ ಷರತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/Tr(Op)Z/HSN/SEE (O)/AEE-5/HNP-F-40(Add)/2025-26/10081-84 Date: 18.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP mode only)

KPTCL invites bid for the following work.

Tender No.: KPTCL/2025-26/SS/WORK_INDENT2993.

For Providing **additional 1x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at 66/11kV S/s, Ganguru (Kallikoppalu),** Hassan District pertaining to Operations Division, KPTCL, Holenarasipura **on Partial turnkey basis.**

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-Tendering process can be obtained by logging on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on hyper link "tenders" on or after **20.11.2025 at 11:00 Hrs.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, (Elec.),
Transmission (Op) Zone, KPTCL, 3rd Floor,
Prasarana Bhavana, Santhepete, B.M. Road, Hassan - 573201.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY

Office of the Registrar (Evaluation), Jnana Jyothi Central College Campus, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560001. E-mail: registrarevlubeu@gmail.com , regev@bcu.ac.in, Ph.No.22295559/29572003,

Indent No: BCU/2025-26/IND0022/ Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through E-Procurement portal only) https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Name of the work	Printing and Supply of Main Answer Booklets and Practical Answer Booklets to Bengaluru City University.
EMD amount	**Rs. 7,10,000/-**
Last date for queries	**25.11.2025 11:00:00**
Pre Bid meeting date and place	**25.11.2025 11:30:00** Office of the Registrar (Evaluation), Jnana Jyothi Central College Campus, Bengaluru City University, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001.
Last date to receipt of Tenders	**05.12.2025 16:30:00**
Opening of Technical Bid	**06.12.2025 16:40:00**

Note: Payment of Tender processing fee and EMD amount as per E-procurement Portal.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/3906/SSC/2025-26 Registrar (Evaluation)

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. 952/Gadag/EEE/2025-26/4681 Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

KPTCL invites following Office tenders pertaining to Operation Division, Gadag:

1) Supplying of 50Kg SF-6 Gas Cylinder at 110KV S/s Lakshmeshwara. 2) Supply of Spare Tripping and Closing Coils for 400KV and 220KV Breakers at 400KV S/s Doni. 3) Supplying of Maintenance Material at 110KV S/s Nargunda. 4) Supplying of 110KV Pneumatic Breaker connected to 10MVA, 110/33KV Power Transformer at 110KV S/s Dambala. 5) Supplying, Fixing, Testing & Commissioning of DCDB to 110KV S/s Rona. 6) Supplying of Maintenance Material (Safety Audit Observation) at 110KV S/s Rona. 7) Supplying of Maintenance Material at 110KV S/s Naregal. 8) Arresting Oil leakage of 20MVA 110/33KV Power Transformer IMP make transformer at 110KV S/s Lakshmeshwara. 9) Replacement of Backup Electromechanical Relay by Numerical Relays for 11KV F-6 Kadampur and F-7 Doni NJY feeders at 110KV S/s Dambala. 10) Supplying of Stationery Materials and various registers to KPTCL Division Office Gadag.

Enquiry Details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from **20-11-2025 at 10:00 Hrs onwards. Due date: 05-12-2025 at 04:00 pm.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (El), Operations Division,
KPTCL, Bapujinagar, Gadag.

Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Bengaluru Division

2nd Floor, PWD Annexe Building,K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001. Ph: 080-22133370

No.: 36/2025-26 Date: 19.11.2025

Tender Notification

Item-rate tenders for the work in PWD, **Doddaballapura, South & Anekal** Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in KPWD as per KPPP. Tender Notification is published **for 03 works (Rs. 6.00 to Rs. 100.00 lakhs).** Details of the works can be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP Portal. (1)** Tenders must be submitted online through KPP Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) on or before 4.00 PM on 27.11.2025. (2)** The opening of tenders through KPP Portal is on **28.11.2025 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be intimated. For more details contact this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/DD-C.P/3914/KSMCA/2025-26

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ.,

(Reg No. ARB/863/54-55, Registered under Karnataka Co-operative Societies Act)

ನಂ.6, 'ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಸದನ', 5ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜಪೇಟೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–18. Phone: 080-29505301 / 29500301, Email: bdcc@bengalurudccbank.com

ನಮೂನೆ –XII (ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ನಿಯಮ 14(3)ರನ್ವಯ)

ಚುನಾವಣಾ ನೋಟೀಸು

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಸಹಕಾರ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಚುಪ್ರಾ/ಬೆಂ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಫೆಡರಲ್/ ಆಮಂಚು/23/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ:30–06–2025 ರನ್ವಯ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲು ಈ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರಾದ ನನ್ನನ್ನು ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯನ್ನಾಗಿ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಮುಂದಿನ 5 ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲು ಈ ನೋಟೀಸ್‌ನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಚುನಾವಣಾ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07–12–2025 ರ ಭಾನುವಾರದಂದು, 2) ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಸಮಯ : ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.00 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, 3) ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಸ್ಥಳ : ಬಿ.ವೆಂಕಟರಾವ್, ಎಸ್.ಸಜ್ಜನರಾವ್ ಮರಾಠ ಸ್ಟೂಡೆಂಟ್ ಹೋಮ್ (ಮರಾಠ ಹಾಸ್ಟಲ್) ನಂ.4, ಬುಲ್ ಟೆಂಪಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560004.

ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಉಪ ವಿಧಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 09(1) ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಚುನಾಯಿತವಾಗಬೇಕಾದ ಸ್ಥಾನ		
1	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಈ ಮೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಭೌಗೋಳಿಕ ಪರಿಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ 'ಡಿ'–ಲಿಮಿಟೇಷನ್ ಅಡಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ, ಆನೇಕಲ್, ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಕನಸವಾಡಿ, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ, ಕನಕಪುರ, ಹಾರೋಹಳ್ಳಿ, ರಾಮನಗರ, ಚೆನ್ನಪಟ್ಟಣ, ಮಾಗಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸೋಲೂರು ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಪತ್ತಿನ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘ (ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ ಸೇವಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘ/ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ ಸೇವಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್/ರೈತರ ಸೇವಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕು) / ವಿವಿಧೋದ್ದೇಶ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕೃಷಿ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಹೆಸರಿನಿಂದ ಕರೆಯಲ್ಪಡುವ ಕೃಷಿ ಪತ್ತಿನ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಎ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಂದ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವಾರು ಚುನಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಡುವ ತಲಾ ಒಬ್ಬ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು.	14 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
2	ಮೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರಾಟ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಬಿ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಂದ ಚುನಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಡುವ	1 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ
3	ಮೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವ್ಯವಸಾಯೇತರ ಪತ್ತಿನ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಸಿ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಮೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಗ್ರಾಹಕರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಇ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಮೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಇ–ಇತರೆ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಂದ ('ಎ' ವರ್ಗ, 'ಬಿ' ವರ್ಗ, 'ಸಿ' ವರ್ಗ, 'ಡಿ' ವರ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು 'ಇ' ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಸದಸ್ಯ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ) ಚುನಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಡುವ	1 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ
4	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಲು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಡಿ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಂದ ಚುನಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಡುವ	1 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ
5	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಲು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ 'ಡಿ' ವರ್ಗದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಂದ ಚುನಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಡುವ	1 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ
	ಒಟ್ಟು	18 ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

ಸದರಿ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿಯು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಇರತಕ್ಕದೆಂದು ನೋಟೀಸ್ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1	ಆಕಾಂಕ್ಷೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ನಾಮಪತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ದಿನಾಂಕ:23–11–2025ರ ಭಾನುವಾರದಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:29–11–2025ರ ಶನಿವಾರದವರೆಗೆ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–00 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 4–00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ/ ಸಹಾಯಕ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ
2	ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ (ನಿಯಮ 14 ಬಿ)	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.11.2025 ರ ಭಾನುವಾರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ
3	ರಿಟರ್ನಿಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧವಾಗಿ ನಾಮಪತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ನಿಯಮ 14ಬಿ(4))	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.11.2025 ರ ಭಾನುವಾರ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಂತರ
4	ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳ ಹಿಂತೆಗೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನ (ನಿಯಮ 14 ಸಿ)	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01–12–2025 ರ ಸೋಮವಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಘಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ
5	ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ನಿಯಮ 14 ಡಿ)	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01–12–2025 ರ ಸೋಮವಾರ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ
6	ಅವಶ್ಯವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಅಪೇಕ್ಷಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಗಳ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ (ನಿಯಮ 14 ಇ)	ದಿನಾಂಕ:01.12.2025 ಸೋಮವಾರ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ
7	ಸಿಂಧುತ್ವ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಉಮೇದುವಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ನಿಯಮ 14ಇ ಮತ್ತು 14–ಎಫ್)	ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.12.2025 ಬುಧವಾರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಘಂಟೆ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ / ಸಹಾಯಕ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ
8	ಮತದಾನದ ಸ್ಥಳ, ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.12.2025 ಭಾನುವಾರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಸ್ಥಳ: ಬಿ.ವೆಂಕಟರಾವ್, ಎಸ್.ಸಜ್ಜನರಾವ್ ಮರಾಠ ಸ್ಟೂಡೆಂಟ್ ಹೋಮ್ (ಮರಾಠ ಹಾಸ್ಟಲ್) ನಂ.4, ಬುಲ್ ಟೆಂಪಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560004.
9	ಮತ ಎಣಿಕೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.12.2025 ಭಾನುವಾರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮತದಾನ ಮುಗಿದ ತಕ್ಷಣ
10	ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಿಂದ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ ಘೋಷಣೆ	ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.12.2025 ಭಾನುವಾರ ಮತ ಎಣಿಕೆ ಮುಗಿದ ತಕ್ಷಣ

ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು :

1. ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರುಗಳ ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 18.
2. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಉಪವಿಧಿ 9(1) ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಲಾದಂತೆ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರುಗಳ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾಗತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
3. ನಾಮಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾವು ಯಾವ ವರ್ಗ/ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವ ಸಂಘದಿಂದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಬಯಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆಯಾ ಮತ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ಮತ್ತು ಮತದಾನದ ಹಕ್ಕುಳ್ಳ ಇನ್ನೊಬ್ಬ ಸದಸ್ಯನು ಸೂಚಕನಾಗಿ ಯುಕ್ತ ರುಜುಮಾಡಿರುವ ನಾಮಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಯಾವ ಸದಸ್ಯನೂ ಅಥವಾ ಡೆಲಿಗೇಟನೂ ಒಂದು ಮತ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮತ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯಾಗಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದಲ್ಲ ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವ ಸದಸ್ಯನೂ ಅಥವಾ ಡೆಲಿಗೇಟನೂ ಒಂದೇ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಿಂದ ಒಬ್ಬರಿಗಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದಲ್ಲ. ಒಂದು ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘದ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ನಾಮಪತ್ರ ಆ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಲಿಯ ನಿರ್ಣಯದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಇರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಮತ್ತು ಅದನ್ನು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯೇ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
4. ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಹಾಜರಿರಬಹುದು. ಉಳಿದವರಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
5. ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಕಾಯಿದೆ ಕಲಂ 29(ಸಿ) ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಲು ಅನರ್ಹತೆ ಹೊಂದಿರಬಾರದು.
6. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಮುಗಿಯುವವರೆಗೂ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ರಜೆಯಾದರೂ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿಯಂತೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತವೆ.
7. ನಾಮಪತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಮಪತ್ರ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬಹುದು. ನಂತರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ವಾಪಸ್ಸು ಪಡೆಯುವವರು ಖುದ್ದಾಗಿ ಹಿಂತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ನೋಟೀಸನ್ನು ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ/ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಪಡೆದವರಿಗೆ ನೀಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.
8. ನಿಯಮ 14–ಎ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸುವ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಹೆಸರಿಗೆ ರೂ.5000/–ಗಳ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಠೇವಣಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕು. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಠೇವಣಿಯನ್ನು ನಾಮಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಪೂರ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಣ ಸಂದಾಯಮಾಡಿ ರಸೀದಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಪೇ–ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಅಥವಾ ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಡ್ರಾಫ್ಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದು ನಾಮಪತ್ರದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹಣ ಸಂದಾಯ ರಸೀದಿ, ಪೇ–ಆರ್ಡರ್ ಅಥವಾ ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಡ್ರಾಫ್ಟ್‌ನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಬೇಕು. ನಿಗಧಿತ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಠೇವಣಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂದಾಯ ಮಾಡದೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
9. ನಿಯಮ 14ಎಇ(4) ಅನ್ವಯ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಿದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ಚುನಾಯಿತನಾಗದಿದ್ದರೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಪಡೆದ ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧ ಮತಗಳ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಚುನಾಯಿತವಾಗಬೇಕಾದ ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಿಂದ ಭಾಗಿಸಿದಾಗ ಬರುವಷ್ಟರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಆರನೇ ಒಂದರಷ್ಟು ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧ ಮತಗಳನ್ನು ಅವನು ಪಡೆಯದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆತನ ಠೇವಣಿಯನ್ನು ಮುಟ್ಟುಗೋಲು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದು.
10. ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮನ್ನಣೆ ಪಡೆದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಸಹಕಾರ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರವು ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಈ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ "ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಾಡಿದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷ" ಎಂದರೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಗಳ (ಮೀಸಲಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ) ಆದೇಶ 1968 ರಡಿ ಭಾರತದ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಆಯೋಗದಿಂದ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ ಆದೇಶದ ರೀತ್ಯಾ.
11. ಒಂದು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷ ಅಥವಾ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪಕ್ಷ ಎಂದು ಗುರುತಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಪಕ್ಷದ ಚಿಹ್ನೆ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಒಂದು ಮುಕ್ತ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಯನ್ನು ಒಬ್ಬರಿಗಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಚೀಟಿ ಎತ್ತುವ ಮೂಲಕ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಯಾವ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಚೀಟಿ ಬರುತ್ತದೋ ಆ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗೆ ಅಂತ ಚಿಹ್ನೆಯನ್ನು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
12. ಸದಸ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ದೃಢೀಕೃತ ಠರಾವಿನ ಪ್ರತಿಯಿಲ್ಲದೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು, ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಗಧಿತ ಅವಧಿ ಮುಗಿದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡದೇ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತಹ ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧವಲ್ಲದ ನಾಮಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
13. ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ತನ್ನ ಉಮೇದುವಾರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಹಿಂತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ನೋಟೀಸ್‌ನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದ ನಂತರ ಸದರಿ ನೋಟೀಸ್‌ನ್ನು ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
14. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವಾರು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಿಂತ ಉಮೇದುದಾರರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಮತದಾನವನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
15. ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಿದ ಅಂತಿಮ ಅರ್ಹ ಮತದಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಉಮೇದುವಾರಿಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು, ಸೂಚಕರಾಗಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಮತದಾನ ಮಾಡುವ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
16. ಒಬ್ಬ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯು ಒಂದು ಸ್ಥಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಲು ಮಾತ್ರ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
17. ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತದಾನ ಮಾಡಲಿಚ್ಛಿಸುವ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಸಂಘವು ಭಾವಚಿತ್ರ ಸಹಿತ ವಿತರಿಸಿರುವ ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿಯನ್ನು ಹಾಜರುಪಡಿಸಿ ಮತದಾನ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
(ಸಲೀಂ ಬಿ.ಕೆ. ಕೆ.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.) ರಿಟರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಆಫೀಸರ್,
ಬಿ.ಡಿ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ., ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಉಪ ನಿಬಂಧಕರು 2ನೇ ವಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ಸ್ಥಳ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18.11.2025

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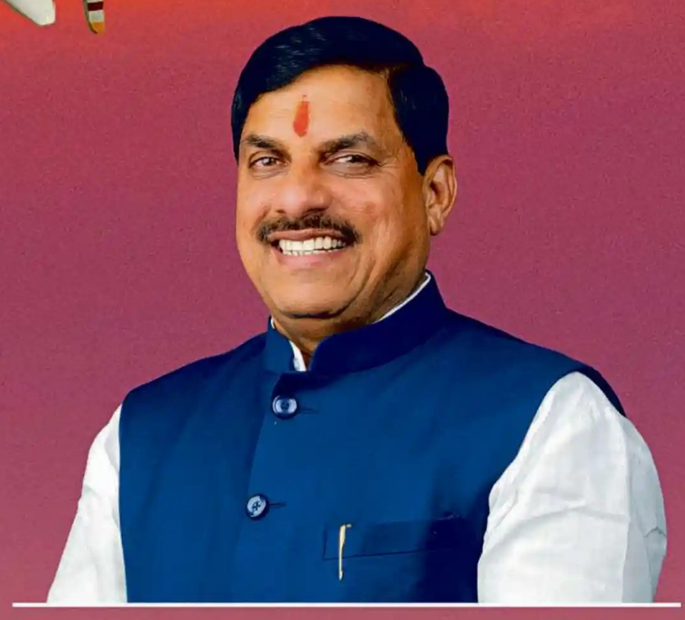
आज से शुरू

नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

पीएमश्री हेली पर्यटन सेवा

देश में अंतर-राज्यीय वायु सेवा संचालित करने वाला

पहला राज्य मध्यप्रदेश

सप्ताह में 5 दिन संचालन

- ईको-टूरिज्म सेक्टर — भोपाल - पचमढ़ी - मढ़ई
- वाइल्ड लाइफ सेक्टर — जबलपुर - कान्हा - बांधवगढ़
- स्पिरिचुअल सेक्टर — इंदौर - उज्जैन - ओंकारेश्वर

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High court stays suspension order against Ballari City Corporation engineer

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Dharwad bench of the high court stayed the suspension order against an engineer at Ballari City Corporation, who was punished for clearing the banner of the corporator's husband.

"This would be a classic case of abuse of power by the Disciplinary Authority to place an officer under suspension who has only removed the banner that was erected in a prohibited area. Therefore, the order of suspension, which is on the face of it mala fide and a product of abuse of power, will not be permitted to stand. The impugned order of suspension shall remain stayed till the next date," Justice M Nagaprasanna said.

The petitioner, Munaf Patel, is an Assistant Executive Engineer (Environment) in Ballari City Corporation. The corporation had passed a resolution that no banner or advertisement of any kind should be placed at several select places in the city.

The resolution stated that putting up any banner or cut-out at these places would be in violation of Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act.

In the first week of October, the corporation staff removed the banner put up at Sangam Circle, one of the places mentioned in the resolution, belonging to one Shrinivas.

Recommendation

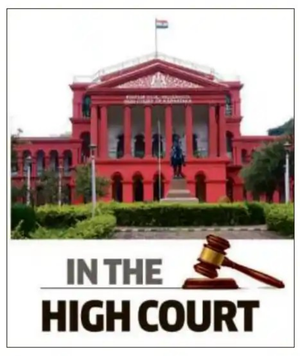
Pursuant to this drive, On October 9, the Secretary, Urban Development, passed an order placing the petitioner under suspension, based on the recommendation by the commissioner of the corporation.

The court said, "Only because the banner was of the husband of the corporator, an axe of suspension has fallen on the petitioner. The petitioner who has only performed his duty in accordance with law is now facing the ire of suspension only because it is the political masters who are dictating such orders of suspension albeit prima facie. It further shocks that the commissioner of the corporation who was a signatory to the resolution of the corporation quoted supra recommends that the petitioner should be placed under suspension and the secretary, Urban Development, has passed an order of suspension on the said score."

The court ordered notice to the respondent authorities and posted the matter to December 2 for further hearing.

Medical, dental seats: HC gives split verdict in pleas against 3rd counselling

'Instead of transparency, process has rendered counselling opaque'



BENGALURU, DHNS

A division bench of the high court has delivered a split verdict in a batch of petitions challenging the manner of conduct of the third round of counselling by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) for undergraduate medical and dental seats.

The bench comprising Justices Jayant Banerji and K V Aravind heard the petitions, filed by candidates primarily seeking permission to participate in the third round of counselling for all vacant seats, and passed the split verdict.

The petitioners contended that after the second round, through different notifications, KEA had added 443 seats for the third round of counselling.

The notifications, however, restricted the participation of the petitioners, who were allotted seats in the first two rounds, to only the added seats.

They claimed that in neighbouring states, vacant and additional seats in the third round are made available not only to the candidates who failed to get a seat in the first and the second round, but also to those who have got admission.

Justice Banerji observed that the introduction of the 443 new seats amidst the third round of counselling and permitting fresh registrations in the third round against those 443 new seats has led to complications in the counselling process.

Instead of promoting transparency, the process has rendered the counselling process opaque with allegations of lack of merit-based seat allotments.

Justice Banerji set aside the 3rd round of the provisional seat allotment list of candidates on October 24, 2025, with a direction to KEA to undertake the process of the third round of counselling afresh, strictly as per the directions of the Apex Court in the case of Bhavna Tiwari.

"Therefore, new registrations for the first stage of the third round of counselling for the 443 new seats could not have been made by KEA. Only the admitted candidates post the second round of counselling would be entitled to participate in the first stage of the third round of counselling," he said, directing KEA to conclude the two stages of the third round of counselling and the final list to be declared no later than December 2, 2025.

On the other hand, Justice Aravind noted that the petitioners, who were selected in the first two rounds and are presently pursuing an undergraduate MBBS course, seeking re-allotment without challenging the governing conditions would deprive candidates who are otherwise eligible for admission against the available vacancies in the third round/mop-up and the stray vacancy round.

He said that the admitted candidates were permitted to make option entries in round 3/mop-up only against the newly added seats in the 9 colleges and that the candidates accepted these conditions and made their option entries accordingly.

"The request made by KEA merits consideration in the larger interest of the eligible candidates and to ensure completion of the ongoing counselling process. In the facts and circumstances of the case, it is appropriate to permit the counselling exercise to be completed on or before December 10, 2025," Justice Aravind said.

Newborn's death: Child rights panel registers suo motu case

HAVERI, DHNS: A day after the incident in which a newborn died as it fell to the ground soon after delivery in the corridor of the Haveri district hospital, the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights registered a 'suo motu' case on Wednesday.

In a letter to Haveri deputy commissioner Vijayamahantesh Danammanavar, the commission asked for a proper investigation into the case and to take legal action against the doctor and staff responsible for the death.

The commission also sought a report of the investigation to it within three days. Danammanavar said he had asked for a detailed report from the district surgeon.

Haveri Institute of Medical Sciences (HIMS) director Pradeep Kumar M V said there was no negligence from the hospital side.

The pregnant woman was brought to the hospital and she had high blood pressure (160/100) and there had been no movement of the baby since the previous night. "When the patient was heading to the restroom to collect urine samples for a test, she delivered the baby, which was stillborn. In this regard, they have sent a detailed report to the medical education department secretary," he said.

The 330-bed hospital has no space for expansion. It gets around 1,600 outpatients every day, he said..

"As the hospital is an old building, we can't expand it vertically either. We have sufficient space on HIMS premises and hope the government will sanction funds for the construction of a 450-bed hospital," he said.

Physical education periods not to be used for academic activities, schools told

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Department of School Education and Literacy has instructed all schools across the state to ensure that students are not engaged in academic activities in periods reserved for physical education and sports. A note to this effect was circulated among all schools after the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) brought the issue to the department's attention.

In his letter to the Department of School Education and Literacy, KSCPCR member Thippeswamy wrote, "During our interaction with students, we learnt that periods dedicated to physical education were being used for other subjects, confining students to the classroom and driving their stress levels higher. Since sports play an important role in a child's overall development, it is necessary to allow children to play outside during these periods."

He pointed out that allowing children to play outdoors improved their concentration levels, and helped improve their academic performance.

The department's circular instructed all schools to abide by the 2025-25 calendar, wherein a set number of periods were exclusively reserved for physical education. The department has tasked the Block Education Officers to visit schools in their jurisdiction, and ascertain whether students are spending enough time outdoors. Many child rights activists too had flagged this lapse on the part of schools, expressing concern for the mental health of children.

Five green awards to recognise eco service: CM

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government will institute five awards to honour conservationists and environmentalists every year, chief minister Siddaramaiah said on Wednesday, stressing the role of the public in conservation of the forests and environment.

Inaugurating the golden jubilee celebration of Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) at Palace Grounds, Siddaramaiah expressed concern about the growing air pollution in smaller cities.

He noted that Bengaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, Davangere and Kalaburagi have already been included in the list of 131 polluted cities declared by the Union government.

He cited the work of the late Salumarada Thimmakka as an example of yeoman service for the environment. "A corpus fund of Rs 1 crore should be established in her name and the interest should be utilised to honour people who have saved the environment. The government will pitch in the additional amount, if required," he said.

KSPCB Chairman P M Narendraswamy said that smaller cities were struggling with sanitation work.

"Most of the sewage treatment plants in the districts are not functioning properly. As a result, polluted water is joining the rivers. District administrations and urban local bodies should be instructed to ensure proper functioning of the plants," he said.

Siddaramaiah said, "We want to make Bengaluru a plastic-free city. However, we can't do it without cooperation from people," he said.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurates the golden jubilee of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board in Bengaluru on Wednesday. Board Chairman P M Narendraswamy and Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre are seen. DH PHOTO

HC: Implement rule on helmets & safety harness to kids riding pillion

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka high court on Wednesday disposed of a public interest litigation (PIL) with directions to the authorities to take suitable steps in six months' time ensuring the availability of helmets and safety harness to children riding two wheelers.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice CM Poonacha also directed the authorities to continue awareness programmes about wearing helmets/safety harness to children.

The PIL was filed by Dr Archana Bhat, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology, Kateel Ashok Pai Memorial College, Shivamogga, in 2023.

The petitioner had contended that though Rule 138(7) of Central Motor Vehicles (Second Amendment) Rules, 2022 required usage of crash helmets and safety harness for children, the same has not been implemented.

This requirement is for the children in the age group between 9 months and four years, who ride pillion.

The petition cited a report about road accidents published in 2021 by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways stating that a total 7,744 persons below the age of 18 years succumbed to road accidents.

Filing its response to the petition, the state government had stated that extensive awareness campaigns have been undertaken regarding the wearing of helmets by two-wheeler riders.

It further said that discussions have been held with the manufacturers to address the lack of availability of crash helmets/safety harness for children in the market.

Sabarimala: Karnataka seeks Kerala's cooperation for safety of its devotees

BENGALURU, PTI: The state government on Wednesday sought Kerala's cooperation to ensure the safety and smooth movement of devotees from the state undertaking the annual Sabarimala pilgrimage from November to January, amid reports of heavy crowds.

Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh wrote to her Kerala counterpart, A Jayathilak, requesting coordinated efforts for the welfare of pilgrims.

"Karnataka contributes a significant number of pilgrims to Sabarimala each year. In this context, I request the kind cooperation of the Government of Kerala in ensuring smooth facilitation and safety of a large number of devotees from our state, particularly during November to January," Rajneesh said in her letter.

She urged Kerala authorities to streamline vehicle movement and regulate crowd flow along routes frequently used by Karnataka pilgrims, especially on peak days.

Sugarcane growers' stir enters 7th day in Bidar

BIDAR, DHNS: The ongoing protest by sugarcane farmers in Bidar, under the banner of the district Kisan Morcha, demanding a price of Rs 3,200 per tonne of cane, has stepped into the seventh day on Wednesday.

The cold weather conditions failed to deter the spirit of farmers.

Khasim, an 80-year-old agitating farmer from Jalasangi in Humnabad taluk, developed breathing issues on the chilly Tuesday night, which saw the minimum temperatures dip to 10 degrees Celsius. He was immediately rushed to a hospital in the city. He is said to be out of danger.

Raitha Sangha district president Mallikarjun Swamy told *DH* that the farmers have planned a road block across the district on Friday, condemning the indifferent attitude of the district administration.

GBITCIA to source and distribute compost bags to farmers

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Greater Bengaluru IT Companies and Industries Association (GBITCIA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Karnataka Compost Development Corporation Limited (KCDCL) during the Bengaluru Tech Summit to support sustainable agriculture in the state.

Under this CSR-driven partnership, the GBITCIA will procure and distribute free compost bags from the KCDCL to farmers across Karnataka. The initiative aims to encourage organic farming, improve soil fertility and reduce dependence on chemical fertilisers, according to a statement.

KCDCL Chairman A N Nataraj Gowda noted that scientifically processed compost enhances soil productivity and long-term sustainability. Former MP Prof M V Rajeev Gowda and GBITCIA president Girish H K were present on the occasion.

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S/o ಲೇಟ್ ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಗಂಗಾಧರಂ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my client has entered into an agreement to sell dt:17-11-2025 to purchase the schedule property belonging to (i) Sri.Dinesh Kumar Srinivasa Murthy alias S Dinesh Kumar, Son of Late D Srinivasa Murthy, (ii) Smt.Rajalakshmi S, Wife of Late D Srinivasa Murthy, (iii) Smt.Nirmala D, Wife of Sri.S Dinesh Kumar, (iv) Sri.Dishan D, Son of Sri.S Dinesh Kumar and (v) Sri.Darshan D, Son of Sri.S Dinesh Kumar, all are residing at No.807/5, Twenty Fourth 'A' Cross, K R Road, Banashankari Second Stage, Bangalore – 560 070;

Sri.Dinesh Kumar Srinivasa Murthy alias S Dinesh Kumar, has lost / misplaced the registered Sale Deed dated 08-09-2000 in favour of Sri.Srinivasa Murthy and registered as document No:2159/2000-01, Book I, Volume 2254, Pages 88 to 90 and registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore City, in respect of the schedule property. In the said circumstances, he has lodged a complaint with the Bangalore City Police on 25-08-2025 vide lost report No:1769497/2025 and in this regard the Advocate of Sri.Dinesh Kumar Srinivasa Murthy alias S Dinesh Kumar has published a public notice dated 03-09-2025 in daily newspapers The New Indian Express on 04-09-2025, informing the general public that he has lost the original of the above document and calling for objections if any;

Any, person, having any claim over the schedule property claiming through the predecessors in title or any other person, may lodge their objections or claims, in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by speed post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within 21 (twenty one) days hereof, failing which my client will proceed to conclude the Sale Transaction. Any claims lodged thereafter will not be entertained by my client;

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of entire property bearing Municipal No.807/5 (CITB site bearing No.807, situated at Fifteenth Cross, Seventh Block Jayanagar Extension, West of Kanakapura Road, Bangalore), now situated at Twenty Fourth 'A' Cross, Banashankari Second Stage, Bangalore, within the limits and administration of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore, Corporation Ward No:166-Karisandra (old ward No.56), PID No.56-49-807/5, EPID No.3150174252, together with ground and first floors totally measuring 2362 sq.ft. of RCC roof, Mossaic flooring, Jungle wood structures standing thereon and bounded on the:

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PERSONAL

Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mir Mohamad Moosa S/o Mir Mohammed Tariq, R/at #51, Miller Road, 2nd Cross, Bengaluru North, Benson Town Post, Bengaluru-560046 have changed my name to MIR MOHAMMED MOOSA vide affidavit dated 19.11.2025 before notary Keer Hassan, Bengaluru.

Happy 11th Birthday SARA!!
On this special day, the world feels a little brighter because you're in it.
Eleven years ago, you arrived like a gift in my life.
I still have fond memories from the day you were born until meeting you last year for your 10th birthday.
Sorry, I couldn't come this year to meet you.
Though distance keeps us apart right now, my heart travels to you every single day.
I feel so happy and proud that you are my daughter.
You are loved beyond measure, today and always.
May your year be filled with laughter, new discoveries, and the kind of joy that makes your eyes shine.
Happy Birthday to you, my PRINCESS!!
With Love from Appa, PRAKASH

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

President Alliance Francaise de Bangalore, invites item rate tender (in two bid) through physical mode from the technically qualified agencies for the following work : -

NIT No.	Name of Work
AF/Interior works/Tender -01 dated 04/11/2025.	Interior Refurbishment Works of Library including allied modification works, internal electrical and HVAC works for Alliance Francaise de Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560052. **Estimated Cost:** Rs.50.00 Lakhs. **Completion period:** 75 days. **Similar nature of works:** Agencies who have experience in carrying out Interior & refurbishment works like, modification of existing facility, Acoustic panelling, False ceiling, False flooring, Partitions, Flooring, Modular furniture, Sliding -folding acoustic partition wall etc., including internal electrical & networking works and highwall/ cassette type AC units.

Prospective bidders who have carried out similar nature of works are requested to collect the tender documents from the office of Alliance Francaise de Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560052 by paying **Rs.2500.00** towards the cost of the tender documents from **20/11/2025 to 27/11/2025** during office hours between 11am to 4.30pm. Bid clarifications if any shall be sent to the authority concerned by e-mail on or before 30/11/2025. Last date for submission of tenders in physical mode **05/12/2025 (15:00 hrs.)**. Last date of Receipt of EMD **(Rs.1.25 Lkahs) 05/12/2025 (15:00 hrs).** i.e along with tender submission in a separate sealed cover. Opening of tender (Technical bids) on 05/12/2025 at 15:30 hrs. Opening of Financial bid on **07/12/2025 at 15:30 hrs.** Detailed NIT is available tender document. For further clarification, please contact on 7899562404/7388026885, E-mail – info.afbangalore@afindia.org

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I, HEMA SOODAMANI Alias HEMA D/o. Soodamani R/o. No. 2D, 504, Block 2, Provident Tree Apartment Herohalli, Vishwaneedam Post, Bangalore-560 091 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as HEMA SOODAMANI vide affidavit dated 06-11-2025 Sworn before Notary H.R. Karunakara, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Lavanya Naikodi D/O Pramod Naikodi born on 08.08.2007 residing at E 402 Gopalan Sanskriti, Mylasandra, Kengeri Bengaluru 560059, have changed my name to LAVANYA NAIKODI SHARMA vide affidavit dated 06.07.2022 before notary K.Venkateshan, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mohammed Owiz S/o Mohammed Ziya, R/at No.5, Graound Floor, 1st Cross, Hidayath Street, Sarvodaya Nagar, Arabic College Post, Bengaluru-560045 , have changed my name to MOHAMMED OWAIZ vide affidavit dated 18.11.2025 before notary I. Kanikha Raja. Bengaluru.

I, AVINASH, s/o Subhash, aged 22 years, R/at Kusrampalli Thanda village, Kollur post, Chincholi taluk, Kalaburagi district, Karnataka, hereby declare that I have changed my name to Avinash Rathod for all official purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SADHIQ C, residing at # 9, 3rd Floor, 2nd Cross Line, M.D.Block, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560003, have changed my name to SADIK C vide affidavit dtd: 19-11-2025 before notary H.S. Sakalesh Aradhya, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as SADIK C only.

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Govt at halfway mark: Mixed bag of guarantees' bravado & 'scams galore'

ANALYSIS

Common man heaves under levies; Cong factions in 'CM chair obsession'

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Congress government completes two and a half years in office on Thursday without brouhaha in what has been a first-half where politics dimmed any and all policy brilliance.

The five 'guarantee' schemes - a pioneering effort towards universal basic income - stand out as an achievement of a government that has spent much of its time dousing internal and external fires.

Politically, the halfway mark of the government was a much-awaited milestone that would cause the unravelling of the leadership tussle between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar, a topic that has hovered over the Congress government since it was formed on May 20, 2023.

Senior Congress leaders wanting ministers in Siddaramaiah's Cabinet changed on the grounds of performance is a testament to how underwhelming governance has been, despite having a mandate huge enough to shake up the system for good.

"There are fewer achievements and more slips in terms of the Siddaramaiah's handling of the politically significant issues," says political analyst Harish Ramaswamy, giving the government four on a scale of 10.

"Policy-wise, I see not much progress. It's more about the guarantees. Yes, they've impacted life, but not life-changing," Ramaswamy says, pointing out that the government hiked various taxes and levies.

R ASHOKA
Leader of the Opposition

"The Congress government has given Karnataka only three things: corruption, chaos and a complete collapse of governance. Every promise has turned into propaganda, every guarantee a burden. Every department is in chaos, every project stuck and every scandal bigger than the last. This is the price Karnataka is paying for trusting them. Instead of fixing the mess they created, the Congress government has mastered only one art: blaming the Centre for every failure.

He recounts the embezzlement of taxpayerws' money at Maharshi Valmiki ST Development Corporation, the MUDA scam, 'diversion' of SC/ST funds and the regulating of the use of public places, which made the government busy "clarifying its blunders".

Ramaswamy also believes that the Siddaramaiah-Shivakumar tussle "could have been avoided" by Congress, given the party's political maturity.

But not everybody is this harsh towards the Congress government.

'Not all is negative'

Political consultant Venkatesh Thogarighatta lists out many 'hits' by the government. Among them is the government's push for big-ticket infrastructure projects, especially for Bengaluru.

"Full credit to the government to have shaken up the much-needed mega projects for Bengaluru from deep slumber," he says.

Thogarighatta counts as 'hits' the guarantee schemes, completion of the first phase of the Yettinahole project, the SSLC exam reforms, investment attraction and more.

Having said that, Thogarighatta says that the government missed "a good opportunity to create reasonable hope" among citizens by taking up short-term to medium-term infrastructure projects.

Pothole-filling, for example. "The government doesn't have much to show in the first half of its tenure as its focus has largely been on long-term things. This will have its negative effect on the rating," he says.

Thogarighatta feels that most departments "are quiet" with neither real initiatives nor noise. "Except Bengaluru development, irrigation, revenue, industries and education, the others are in deep slumber," he says.

Ramaiah College of Law launches RIMAC 2026

Ramaiah College of Law (RCL) launched Ramaiah International Moot and Arbitration Conference (RIMAC 2026), commemorating 30 years of the institution's academic excellence. RIMAC 2026 brings together a premier International Arbitration Moot Court Competition and a high-level International Arbitration Conference, positioning RCL as a leading contributor to global discourse on dispute resolution.

RIMAC 2026 is being organised in collaboration with leading institutional and knowledge partners including AZB & Partners, International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC) Hyderabad, CMS IndusLaw and Jurisphere.

Founded in 1995 by Dr M S Ramaiah, and powered down the years by M R Anandaram, Secretary, Gokula Education Foundation, RCL has grown into one of India's most distinguished institutions of legal education, renowned for its academic rigour, professional ethics and commitment to social responsibility. The launch of RIMAC is a significant milestone in this journey, underscoring the institution's continued leadership as a law college dedicated to shaping the next generation of legal professionals.

RIMAC 2026 will be held from March 13-15, 2026. Conceived as a legacy platform for thought leadership, the conference will convene members of the Bar, Bench, corporate sector, international institutions and academia to deliberate on emerging global challenges, including institutional arbitration, technology-driven disputes and ESG-linked conflicts. Running parallelly, the RCL International Arbitration Moot will offer students a rigorous, practice-oriented experience in international commercial arbitration before panels of eminent arbitrators and practitioners - an initiative endorsed by IAMC Hyderabad and AZB & Partners for its contribution to India's growing arbitration ecosystem.

Curated by DH Brandspot

Mekedatu: Govt to submit 'revised' DPR, DKS clarifies

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's office clarified on Wednesday that the government would submit a 'revised' report on the Mekedatu project.

Since the earlier detailed project report (DPR) was formulated based on the schedule of rates of 2018-19 and submitted to Central Water Commission on January 18, 2019, and the same was not taken up for appraisal by CWC due to administrative and legal constraints, the path is now clear in the light of the Supreme Court judgement dated November 13, 2025," Shivakumar's technical advisor K Jaiprakash said in a statement. On Tuesday, the deputy CM told reporters that a "new" DPR would be submitted.

K'taka signs...

LoIs, from Page 1

These LoIs and MoUs have been announced under the Local Economy Accelerator Program (LEAP).

He said LEAP is a Rs 1,000-crore initiative, to strengthen emerging clusters outside Bengaluru by providing access to infrastructure, funding & sector-specific support. The government also announced the rollout of 'Elevate Next (Deeptech)' and 'Elevate Beyond Bengaluru'.

Elevate Next (Deeptech) will commence on Jan 1, 2026, providing targeted grant-in-aid to accelerate cutting-edge deeptech innovation. Elevate Beyond Bengaluru will be launched on Feb 1, with focus on catalysing entrepreneurial growth in tier-2 & tier-3 cities.

Forty startups chosen under Elevate Next (Deeptech) will get grants between Rs 50 lakh & Rs 1 crore, and 50 start-ups in Elevate Beyond Bengaluru will get up to Rs 50 lakh, Bache Gowda told a press meet here.

Khader, Horatti review preparations for winter session in Belagavi

BELAGAVI, DHNS

Legislative Assembly Speaker U T Khader asked officials to ensure that they do not provide any scope for anomalies during the winter session of the legislature to be held from December 8 at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha (SVS) here.

All officials should discharge their responsibilities properly and make the session a success, he said.

Khader presided over a meeting and reviewed preparations for the session here on Wednesday.

Care should be taken to ensure that mobile phone networks were available, Khader said. Protests were staged during previous sessions by various organisations in support of their demands. A suitable place should be identified for the protests and necessary facilities provided for the protestors along with police security, he said.

Necessary security arrangements should be made at SVS, the speaker said.

Care should be taken so that traffic movement is smooth in the city and people do not face inconveniences. Khader said, like last year, cultural programmes will be organised, Khader said.

He said time would be provided to discuss issues related to North Karnataka and representatives from the region should raise them to seek replies from the government.

To a question on MLA Bharamgouda (Raju) Kage's statement that he would demand a separate state for North Karnataka, Khader said such demands should not be made and if made, the Business Advisory Committee will decide whether to allow the issue or not.

Council chairman Basavaraj Horatti said proper accommodation and transport facilities be given to ministers, legislators, staff and marshals during the session. Doctors should be deputed at hotels where ministers and legislators were lodged, he said.

Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Roshan gave information about the ongoing preparations for the session.

Assembly speaker U T Khader and Council chairman Basavaraj Horatti inspect the Assembly hall during a meeting to review preparations for the upcoming winter session of the legislature, at the Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi on Wednesday. MLA Asif Sait and officials were present.

I'll present my 17th Budget: Siddaramaiah

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said he would present his record 17th Budget next year, thus ruling out any change in leadership until then. The CM was speaking at the golden jubilee of LG Havanur submitting the first backward classes commission report.

"When I first became the finance minister, I was mocked that this Kuruba can't even count sheep. I took that as a challenge and went on to present 16 budgets," he said. "I'll present the 17th budget, too."

"What do I say to backwards and Dalits who join the BJP-RSS-ABVP? They do so despite knowing that the BJP-RSS ideology is against them," he said. "Those dying in the name of God and Dharma are our backward classes people," he added.

"Backward people haven't come out of their subservient mindset. Addressing the poor among upper castes in the plural while using the singular for the rich among lower castes is a sign of slavery," he said.

He said his government was ready to implement the Social & Educational Survey report and hike reservations to 75% in the state. "As long as I'm alive and in politics, I'll stand for social justice," he said. During the event, Siddaramaiah read out anti-Shudra portions from the Manusmriti. "All of you must read the shlokas that equate Shudras with dogs," he said.

Muniyappa asks Kharge to clarify leadership issue

'Leaders and party workers fed up with speculations'

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Food and Civil Supplies Minister K H Muniyappa on Wednesday said he has requested Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge to clarify the party's stand on the issue of a change in Karnataka and put an end to all speculation.

Muniyappa, who met Kharge here, told mediapersons, "I have requested Kharge to clarify the party high command's stand on whether they intend to go for a leadership change or allow CM Siddaramaiah to complete his full five-year term."

"Nobody knows whether there was any pact between Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D K Shivakumar on sharing power. The party must make its stand clear. Any delay may further damage the party as well as the functioning of the government. This is what I told Kharge," Muniyappa said.

He said party leaders and workers were fed up with daily media speculation about the possible change of leadership after the government completes its half term on November 20. "We must put an end to this confusion," he said.

"The frequent debate on leadership issues in the media is taking a toll on the administration and the functioning of the party. As a senior leader, I am concerned," he added.

Insisting that it is up to the high command to decide whether to continue Siddaramaiah or appoint a new CM, he said, "The Siddaramaiah-headed government is functioning smoothly."

On the question of a Dalit CM, he said that while there were several eligible Dalit leaders in state, including Kharge, the decision rests with the high command. He clarified that he had not raised the issue with Kharge.

When asked whether he would be dropped from the cabinet if his daughter, KGF MLA Roopa Shashidar, is inducted during a reshuffle, he said, "She belongs to Kolar district and I am an MLA from Devanahalli, which falls under Bengaluru Rural district. Both are separate areas. Don't ask whether I will be dropped from the cabinet if Roopa is made a minister."

K H MUNIYAPPA
Food and Civil Supplies Minister

"Nobody knows whether there was any pact between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on sharing power. The party must make its stand clear. Any delay may further damage the party as well as the functioning of the government.

Gang posing as RBI officials pulls off Rs 7-cr heist...

Cash heist, from Page 1

The robbers said they needed to verify documents for transporting such a large amount of cash. The crew was asked to cooperate.

They then asked all crew members except the driver to get into the Innova, saying they would be taken to a police station. The driver was instructed to proceed alone to the Dairy Circle flyover — over 5km away — and wait for them.

Before reaching the flyover, the three crew members were abruptly deboarded. The gang then caught up with the driver at the flyover, allegedly threatened him at gunpoint, transferred the cash boxes into the Innova and drove off.

"We suspect they chose that spot due to poor CCTV surveillance. They were last seen crossing a toll gate in Kolar," a senior police officer told *DH* without giving details.

He added that investigators were examining why the armed guards complied with the robbers' instructions so easily. The van driver has also given "unconvincing" answers.

"We suspect this was all preplanned. The robbers appear to have recced the van's movements, choosing the interception and escape points. This reeks of a well-planned heist because it is not easy to rob in a highly surveilled city like Bengaluru," the senior officer said, indicating that an inside job wasn't ruled out.

Police have detained all four crew members for questioning.

An FIR has been registered. Scene of crime (SOCO) officers and forensic analysts have scoured the van for clues and fingerprints. Police believe a Maruti Suzuki Zen was used.

Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh told reporters that a 'nakabandi' was swiftly established across the city after the incident and multiple teams were working to trace the robbers.

"A few teams are physically on the ground, others are carrying out technical investigations. There was a delay in alerting the police, and the driver has given contradictory statements. All angles are being probed," Singh added.

DKS hints he'll quit as Cong chief, says will be on frontline

DKS, from Page 1

"But Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi asked me to stay on for some more time," he said.

Shivakumar's statement came at a time when Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's loyalists are demanding a new party president.

Some of them have pointed to Congress general secretary K C Venugopal's announcement in 2023 that Shivakumar would head the state unit until the Lok Sabha polls.

There is speculation that Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi (ST) and Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre (Lingayat) are eyeing the Karnataka Congress presidency.

Earlier in his address, Shivakumar again created curiosity about his future when he asked his party workers not to let the Bihar election result dishearten them. "Where or what I will be doesn't matter. But the party will definitely retain power in the state. Don't lose your confidence," he said.

'Next CM' chant

Speaking to reporters after the event, Shivakumar said he was "trying to set an example" as the party president.

"I want to leave something behind for the party. We need new buildings, new members," Shivakumar said. "But I am not the one who runs away. I will keep working as long as the Gandhi family and the Congress president want me to."

While Shivakumar was leaving the party office, his supporters shouted slogans: "D K Shivakumar...the next CM!"

Al-Falah chairperson had incentive to flee India, says ED

Al-Falah, from Page 1

These premises were linked to the Group, which runs Al-Falah University in Faridabad & other institutions. The university came under the scanner for fraudulently claiming NAAC accreditation and UGC recognition after some of its faculty members in 'white collar terror module' case and Red Fort blast.

The ED registered a case of money laundering based on two FIRs filed by the Delhi police's Crime Branch, accusing the varsity of making "fraudulent & misleading" claims on NAAC accreditation and UGC recognition with an "oblique motive to cheat" the public.

While Siddiqui's lawyer said his client was falsely implicated, the ED told the court that he has "significant financial resources and influence" and has a history of serious economic offences. His close family members are also settled in Gulf countries and he has incentives to flee India, the ED claimed.

"Given the gravity of the allegations (with proceeds of crime in hundreds of crores) and potential consequences under PMLA, there is reasonable apprehension that if not arrested he may abscond or remain unavailable for effective interrogation, relocate assets and himself beyond the jurisdiction, and continue to delay or obstruct the probe," the ED told the court.

Siddiqui, as founder and managing trustee, was "controlling the mind" of Al-Falah Charitable Trust and exercises de facto influence over Al-Falah University and its institutions, it said, adding his custodial interrogation was necessary to unearth the full extent of the "proceeds of crime". The ED said only a portion of the proceeds of crime worth Rs 415.1 crore has been identified so far.

Vijayendra slams Bilimale's remarks on Yakshagana artistes

MANGALURU, DHNS: State BJP president B Y Vijayendra on Wednesday condemned the remarks by Kannada Development Authority Chairman Purushotham Bilimale that Yakshagana artistes, who played female roles, were under pressure to be homosexuals.

He told reporters in Puttur that Bilimale's remarks are an insult to the artistes.

"This is not just an insult to Yakshagana artistes but an affront to the entire Hindu community. It exposes the Congress' mindset," he said.

"If Congress government has even an ounce of respect for art and culture of coastal region, it must remove the KDA chairman," he said.

He charged that the government is engaged in corruption and preoccupied with internal power struggles rather than public welfare.

"There is intense tug-of-war in Congress for CM's post. The people have lost faith in the government," he said.

He alleged that ministers and senior leaders of the ruling party are camping in Delhi to secure political leverage.

"Their only focus is the CM's chair. The Congress has betrayed the trust of the people. The BJP will take to the streets against the corrupt administration. The sooner we remove this government, the better," he said.

ED chargesheets former MUDA commissioner in site allotment scam

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it had filed a Prosecution Complaint (PC), its equivalent of a police charge sheet, against former MUDA commissioner GT Dinesh Kumar in connection with the illegal site allotment scam.

The PC was filed before the special court for trial of MPs/MLAs cases at Bengaluru (CCH-82) on November 14, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

"The evidence and documents collected during the course of investigation in this case have indicated active involvement of G T Dinesh Kumar in the comprehensive money laundering scheme perpetrated at MUDA, Mysuru, during his tenure as commissioner," an ED statement said.

The ED initiated investigation based on an FIR registered by the Lokayukta police over alleged large-scale illegal allotment of MUDA sites. CM Siddaramaiah and his wife B M Parvathi were among those accused by the agency.

According to the ED, its investigation revealed a "large-scale scam" in allotment of MUDA sites by flouting various statutes and government orders/guidelines and other fraudulent means.

"The role of Dinesh Kumar has emerged as instrumental in illegal allotment of compensation sites to ineligible entities/individuals. The evidences with respect to obtaining bribe for making illegal allotments in the form of cash, bank transfer, movable/immovable properties have been gathered during the course of the investigation," it added.

The modus operandi for making illegal allotment involved identification of ineligible beneficiaries and making allotment using fake documents/incomplete documents in direct violation of government orders and also back dating of allotment letters in some cases, it noted.

"The gratification received for making these illegal allotments was routed through a co-operative society and bank accounts of the relatives/associates of Dinesh Kumar, who played a key role in the allotment process. The gratification, thus received, was further used to purchase some of these illegally allotted MUDA sites in the name of relatives of Dinesh Kumar," the ED said.

Kumar was arrested on September 16 and is currently in judicial custody.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over Coastal Karnataka and dry weather prevailed over South Interior and North Interior Karnataka
Forecast Nov 20: Rainfall to occur at few places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	28.8	14.8	00
Bidar	27.4	11	00
Vijayapura	28.5	12.1	00
Dharwad	29.6	15.2	00
Haveri	29.2	16.8	00
Kalaburagi	31.2	15.8	00
Raichur	30.4	17	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	35.1	22.3	00
Karwar	35.6	23.6	00
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	33.1	25	1.6

INTERIOR SOUTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	31.8	18.8	00
Bengaluru	25	19.4	TR
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	NA	NA	NA
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	28	18.7	00
Davangere	28.5	14	00
Hassan	30.9	NA	00
Mysuru	29	18.6	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	23.2	18.8	0.4
OTHER STATIONS			
New Delhi	26.4	10.2	00
Kolkata	30.4	17.4	00
Mumbai	32.1	16.2	00
Chennai	29.3	23	12
Pune	27.9	9.5	00
Hyderabad	29.6	14.3	00
Th'puram	27.8	23.7	50

DECCAN HERALD
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In denial, Congress loses the plot, too

The Congress party is doing a disservice to itself by attributing the abysmal performance of the party and the larger Mahagathbandhan in Bihar to "vote *chori*" and an alleged collusion between the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the BJP. The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) undertaken by the EC just ahead of the election was intended to alter the electoral rolls, but arguments that trace the Mahagathbandhan's rout to SIR need stronger evidence. While the Voter Adhikar Yatra of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav did evoke some response, the coalition failed to make the concerns a poll plank that could influence voting behaviour. It is to be noted that the alliance did not fare well even in areas where the Yatra was taken. The EC is answerable for the manner in which it conducted SIR, and, perhaps, even for its objectives, but it would be a stretch to link its flawed procedures to the NDA's landslide win.

The Commission's conduct was partisan before and during the poll campaign. It has not answered Gandhi's questions about discrepancies in the voters' lists in Karnataka and Haryana. Its treatment of the Opposition parties, especially the Congress, has been marked with hostility. Complaints against the ruling coalition about the violation of the model code of conduct were overlooked. Critically, the Commission refused to halt the government's money transfer scheme for women, launched just before the announcement of the election schedule, which continued even during the campaign. This bonanza did have an impact on the election. But the EC's biased interventions were not the sole reason for the Mahagathbandhan's poll debacle.

Excuses and allegations cannot obscure the real causes of the Bihar rout. Only honest introspection will help

Instead of looking for scapegoats and excuses, Congress should introspect and identify the real reasons for this disastrous result. It did not invoke issues that appealed to the people, and did not have the cadre strength on the ground to convey the party's vision and roadmap to the voters. It did not strategise and gel well with its allies, and failed to project a strong local leadership that the voter could identify with. There was a discernible lack of ideas and intent, which proved costly against a formidable incumbent that leveraged its strengths – a united top brass, smart poll messaging, and the right social representation. If Congress wants to learn any lessons from Bihar, it should ask hard questions on these shortcomings and seek honest answers. This is also the time for the party to ask its top leadership about the reasons for the repeated electoral setbacks.

Metro plan defies mobility logic

The Karnataka government's decision to proceed with a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed Bengaluru-Tumakuru Metro line is misguided on multiple fronts: it defies logic, expert advice, and overlooks the basic principles of transport economics. Commissioning a DPR despite widespread concerns about feasibility is a waste of public funds on an idea that should never have been considered in the first place. Home Minister G Parameshwara, who represents Tumakuru, has claimed that a Qatari company is willing to fully fund the line under a public-private partnership (PPP) model. But the availability of funds is not a licence to squander it on an ill-conceived project; a white elephant paid for by foreign capital is still a white elephant.

The state has far more urgent mobility needs than building a metro where it is neither required nor suitable. Metros are designed for intra-city travel, meant for short, high-frequency trips, with closely spaced stations, rapid acceleration, and dense urban catchments. Stretching such a system across 70 km to connect two cities defeats its very purpose. According to BMRCL, the Madavara-Nelamangala stretch would have stations every 1-2 km, while the Nelamangala-Tumakuru section may need stops 4-5 km apart – an awkward compromise that serves neither urban nor inter-city demand. This mismatch would result in slow, inefficient journeys where the metro could take almost two hours, making travel by road faster. With unimpressive speeds, poor comfort, and abysmal operational efficiency, the concept collapses under its own contradictions. Globally, metros do not connect cities; regional and suburban rail do.

Ill-conceived and financially reckless, the Bengaluru-Tumakuru metro line risks being another white elephant

The most indefensible aspect of the proposal is the duplication of existing infrastructure currently being upgraded. The South Western Railway is investing Rs 3,500 crore to quadruple the Bengaluru-Tumakuru line, a fraction of the projected metro cost. K-RIDE has also proposed a suburban rail line to Tumakuru. Building a metro parallel to an upgraded rail corridor is the very definition of wasteful expenditure. What Tumakuru needs is a multimodal transport hub at Bengaluru's north-western gateway, where commuters can seamlessly transfer to the city's metro or BMTC bus services after alighting from suburban or mainline trains. The trains themselves can continue to key city stations like Yeshwanthpur or KSR Bengaluru, enabling deeper city access without a costly Rs 20,000-crore metro. The Tumakuru Metro is not a mobility solution. It is a politically convenient, financially reckless, technically unsound vanity project that risks bleeding taxpayers for decades. The government must shelve the DPR, abandon this misguided proposal, and focus on completing projects that genuinely serve public interest.

A FRAGILE CEASEFIRE

Gaza stalemate and a looming partition wall

The Trump Plan remains stalled as regional dynamics compound Israeli resistance and Hamas' refusal to disarm

R SWAMINATHAN

The United States-sponsored UN resolution endorsing President Trump's 20-point Comprehensive Plan to end the Gaza conflict was adopted by the UN Security Council on Monday, with Russia and China abstaining and all 13 other members voting overwhelmingly in favour.

It was a significant diplomatic victory for the US, which succeeded last Friday in persuading the eight Arab and Muslim states associated with the Trump Plan since its inception in September to endorse the resolution. To secure their support, the US amended the text to include a reference to "a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood", despite strong opposition from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. In doing so, the US managed to win over the Arab states while addressing only a few of their concerns, and that too only tangentially. Even so, effective implementation of the Plan's second phase still appears distant.

About two weeks ago, in a significant development, Hamas returned the body of an Israeli soldier killed in Gaza in 2014, bringing a measure of closure to a painful chapter Israel had sought to resolve for over a decade. Although this gesture has introduced a degree of stability into an already fragile ceasefire, it has not yet led to progress on the transfer of the roughly 200 Hamas militants trapped within the tunnel networks beneath the Israeli-controlled sector of Rafah, near the Egyptian border in southern Gaza.

The US has been urging Israel to accept a proposal granting safe passage to the militants, allowing them to cross the "yellow line" that divides Gaza into areas still held by Israel and those vacated by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), now under Hamas control. Under the plan, the militants would first disarm and disclose detailed information about the tunnel networks, enabling their subsequent destruction by the IDF.

Fierce opposition has emerged across Israel's political spectrum, most sharply from the far-right ministers, over the safe passage being given to the militants who, they say, should be detained and interrogated rather than pardoned. Such a stance would, however, directly contradict the core principle of the Trump Plan, which explicitly grants amnesty or exile to militants upon surrender of their arms. Following the public position of Netanyahu that "Israel will not grant safe passage," Jared Kushner, President Trump's son-in-law, met him in Jerusalem in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade him to shift his position.

Any violent confrontation between the IDF and the militants could unravel both the ceasefire and the broader framework of the plan. Indeed, when two Israeli soldiers were killed in Rafah two weeks after the ceasefire, Israel retaliated with airstrikes that killed

45 people, including civilians. Acting swiftly to preserve the truce, Washington dispatched its top leadership to Israel. Yet only a fortnight later, Israel launched airstrikes that left 104 Palestinians dead in response to another soldier's killing in Rafah.

Although the US is expected to reach an arrangement acceptable to Israel, it foreshadows the formidable challenges ahead in demilitarising 43% of Gaza that remains under Hamas control. While the Palestinian Authority (PA) welcomed the UNSC resolution, Hamas issued a statement rejecting the Council's approval of the US resolution on the Board of Peace, describing the deployment of the International Stabilisation Force (ISF) as tantamount to occupation. Netanyahu welcomed the resolution, highlighting its emphasis on the demilitarisation of Hamas.

Israel's uncompromising stance is likely to stiffen Hamas's resistance to disarmament, which they fear would leave them defenceless against the IDF and rival militant factions. One Arab proposal suggests allowing Hamas to relinquish heavy weaponry while retaining small arms, an idea Israel is expected to oppose vehemently.

No middle ground

Getting countries to contribute troops to the ISF, notwithstanding the UNSC resolution, will be an uphill task. Arab states, expected to take the lead in the ISF, have made it clear that they will not deploy troops to disarm an unwilling Hamas, a move that would provoke serious political backlash at home. Non-Arab Muslim countries have shown equal reluctance. A more feasible alternative may lie in the deployment of Palestinian police units currently being trained by Egypt and Jordan.

Egypt has invested considerable effort in persuading various Palestinian factions to agree on a technocratic government. However, Israel remains firmly opposed to the inclusion of any figures associated with either the PA or Hamas in such an administration.

Curiously, the delay in the commencement of phase two of the Trump Plan serves the interests of both the principal actors – Hamas and Netanyahu. Hamas has been steadily consolidating its hold over the areas vacated by Israel. Israel, meanwhile, is rigorously fortifying the "yellow line," opening fire on any Palestinians who attempt to cross it. Plans are also underway to begin reconstruction in the 53% of Gaza currently under Israeli occupation, aimed at resettling Palestinians who have undergone security vetting.

If implemented, this would leave Gaza effectively partitioned: a "New Gaza," under Israel's effective control and resembling the conditions in the West Bank, and an "Old Gaza," governed by Hamas. Such an arrangement would afford Israel considerable freedom to breach the ceasefire whenever it chooses, much as it now justifies its operations in Lebanon, citing Hezbollah's failure to disarm as required.

While the Arab states have gained a temporary respite by halting large-scale warfare in Gaza and securing assurances that Israel will not occupy either the West Bank or Gaza, the reality remains grim: nearly the entire population of 2.1 million Gazans is now confined to just 43% of the territory. The situation is a recipe for future catastrophe – one that can be averted only through a profound shift in mindset and a spirit of genuine accommodation among the seven million Jews and an equal number of Palestinians living between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.

(The writer is a former Ambassador of India to Egypt and former Permanent Representative of India to the Arab League)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

A life of gentle wisdom

The goodness was simply woven into Pattimma's stories

K S S RAGHAVAN

Pattimma, as I called my maternal grandmother, was an old woman like many of her generation, but to me she was extraordinary. She has influenced me throughout my life. She spent her early years in Kerala and moved to Tamil Nadu after marriage. Though she left Kerala, the distinctive accent never left her. Her conversations were always sprinkled with Kerala-style *Mamizh* (Malayalam+Tamizh) or Manglish (Malayalam+English).

Pattimma was a treasure trove of stories. She spoke of her father's incorruptible ways as a man with judicial powers; of her mother's pilgrimage to Badrinath in old age, cooking for herself throughout the journey and covering much of the final ascent on foot; and of her devout younger brother, who, afflicted with a strange eye disease, spent a night praying at the Chottanikkara Bhagavathy temple and woke up completely cured. From these stories, my young mind formed vivid images of honesty, mental strength and devotion.

If we, her grandchildren, have grown up with a strong moral compass, it is certainly because of her. Nothing was preached; the goodness was simply woven into her stories -- the *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharata*, Dhruva's courage in adversity, Prahlada's conviction, the tale of Harischandra and so on – all of which she knew by heart. The intensity of her narration made them feel less like stories and more like lived truths about the triumph of good over evil.

Once, as a little boy, I put some *prasadam* in my mouth before it was offered to God. Before swallowing, I realised my mistake and showed Pattimma. She simply said, "Spit it out; it is okay." To me, that was the ultimate lesson in truthfulness. I doubt any other grandmother would have said that. The message was clear: be honest with yourself.

Her only regret was that she never saw Gandhi*ji* in person, although he had visited her village. When he passed away, she fasted the entire day during the ceremonies, as if mourning a family member. Her other unfulfilled wish was to visit her native Kerala once more. Had she lived a little longer, I would have carried her on my shoulders to fulfil that desire. Alas, it was not to be.

When I got my first job, I sent her Rs 50 from my first salary by money order—now a relic—along with a note seeking her blessings. She was already very ill. I later learnt that she received it, read my message, held it gently in her hand for a moment, and then returned the money to my mother with a smile. That was her blessing. She passed away a few days later.

PS: My younger daughter carries Pattimma's name, Komalavalli, as her second name.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Second airport for Bengaluru shouldn't ignore ecological concerns

Apropos 'South B'luru to house city's 2nd airport: DKS' (Nov 19), while a second airport seems urgent, options to expand KIA remain underexplored, which could relieve pressure without destroying ecosystems. The state's rush to pick a site is billed as vision, yet vision without analysis is mere spectacle. An IISc study reveals Bengaluru's built-up area has grown over 1,000%, green cover has fallen 88%, and water bodies have shrunk from 2,324 ha in 1973 to 696 ha today—a 70% drop. Alarmingly, 98% of lakes are encroached, and 90% carry untreated sewage, choking groundwater recharge. If a second airport is unavoidable, it must undergo a thorough environmental impact assessment, favour low-value land, integrate green infrastructure—including lake restoration, rainwater harvesting, and tree cover—and ensure fair compensation for farmers, with public consultation. Development should not blind us to ecological limits.
K V Chandramouli, Mysuru

Towards inclusion

Apropos 'A ruling to restore trans rights' (Nov 19), the struggle of the LGBTQ community for a dignified livelihood continues to be trivialised by the State machinery and civil society. Many, even after achieving academic accolades, are left to fend for themselves. Civil society, the State, and advocacy activists must evolve a framework for inclusion of such communities. Their inclusion should be facilitated through affirmative action in education, employment, social and political engagements, and welfare schemes of the state to safeguard the interests of an already diffident, exploited, and neglected community.
Albert Smith, Bengaluru

Review doles

Apropos 'Landslide win and a cloud of distrust' (Nov 18), the positive role of the Election Commission needs to be acknowledged, as the election conducted in multiple phases went off without untoward incidents or demands for repolls. However, the EC and the judiciary must take serious note of model code violations and the transfer of Rs 10,000 to over 75 lakh women just before the elections. This culture of doles can ruin the long-term economic prospects.
Hosur Rathnakara Shetty, Udupi

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

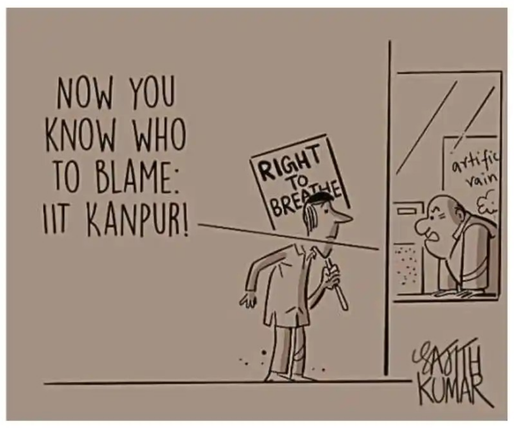
SPEAK OUT

Whether I'm around or not is immaterial. But I want to set up 100 new party offices under my tenure... I can't be around permanently. It's already 5.5 years. In March, it'll be six years. Others must be given an opportunity.

D K Shivakumar, Karnataka Dy CM

In this world, nothing is done without motives.
Benjamin Franklin

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

Missing voices, illusory rights

Lack of consultation and flawed compliance mechanisms dilute the intent of Karnataka's domestic workers' bill

MRUDULA VANANGAMUDI AND POORNA RAVISHANKAR

The Karnataka government's proposed regulatory framework for domestic workers is a welcome step towards improving their working conditions. However, the Bill's shortcomings are a reflection of the Labour Ministry's inadequate consultation process – particularly without publishing a Kannada draft of the Bill – shutting workers out of any meaningful engagement on a law that could fundamentally transform their lives. In its current form, this law is more likely to inhibit rather than enable the dignity of the domestic workers.

First, the Karnataka Domestic Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill reflects a lack of understanding of the conditions that force people, particularly women and young girls, into domestic work – adverse life events such as death/disability of /abandonment by primary breadwinners, medical emergencies, crop failures/natural disasters, etc. In such a context, mandatory registration for domestic workers risks creating arbitrary and exclusionary barriers to their right to a livelihood.

Second, the process of registration involves an application along with government-prescribed fees and documents. Worse still, the Bill allows applications to be rejected without specifying the circumstances that warrant rejection, opening the door to unchecked discretion and abuse.

Aggravating the problem, the Bill mandates a written agreement between workers and employers – a very concerning provision given that many workers are unlettered. The Bill does not create any mechanism for workers to be assisted in making such agreements so that their interests are sufficiently protected. Moreover, non-compliance merely penalises the employers/service providers without offering any remedies for the domestic worker, especially where there is a breach of the agreement.

Such provisions create unnecessary compliance costs for both the workers and the employers, which is likely to discourage direct engagement and lead to a proliferation of "service providers" with the wherewithal to manage such costs. Further, the Bill, by placing the onus of registration on the employers/service providers, effectively empowers them to compel domestic workers to produce documents which may or may not be possible given the precarious circumstances that force some of them into domestic work.

It is also concerning that such provisions may encourage the commodification of domestic work into "insta-maid" services and usher in the era of technofeudalism in Karnataka.

Toothless enforcement

Third, besides the glaring silence on actual remedies, the Bill makes rights conferred illusory with the enforcement mechanism it establishes – a State Board and decentralised, district-level grievance redressal committees.

The Board is conferred with powers of inquiry into violations; its powers to remedy the same are limited to referring complaints to the police or the court. The district committees have a broad mandate to address the grievances of the domestic workers, employers, service-providers, placement agencies, and any other person involved in the employment or non-employment of the worker. The composition, terms of reference, and procedures to be followed are left to be defined by the executive's rules.

Furthermore, the Bill specifically bars courts from taking cognisance of any offence under this law without either a complaint by or written sanction from the district or State Board or an office-bearer of a voluntary organisation registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or the Trade Unions Act.

These provisions effectively reduce the legal personhood of the domestic workers as passive beneficiaries rather than rights holders with dignity. There is no reason why the State cannot imagine a law that enables domestic workers to approach a court or a board to enforce their rights and avail remedies for injuries, much like any other worker could. The practical difficulties that domestic workers might face on account of their economic limitations or lack of legal awareness could be addressed through other means of support.

Once a more robust framework for redressal committees is developed, it will be crucial to constitute these committees at the taluk level, rather than the district level, to truly facilitate access to workers.

Fourth, criminalising non-compliance as an offence is disproportionate. If punishment is aimed at fulfilling the command of the law, perhaps deterrence is better achieved through economic sanctions enforced as civil remedies than through criminal penalties. Moreover, studies have indicated that the certainty of being held accountable for the violation of laws is a more powerful deterrent than stringent punishments. However, without a meaningful enforcement mechanism or effective remedies, criminalising non-compliance is the easiest way to appear sincere.

Finally, the government of Karnataka must address these concerns before enacting the Bill. Most importantly, finalising the Bill without wide-ranging consultations with domestic workers across the state would be a disservice to the very persons whose interests it claims to protect.

(The writers are legal practitioners working with the Alternative Law Forum, Bengaluru)

Is Anta a strategic defeat that suits Raje's rivals within BJP?

DATELINE Jaipur

RAKHEE ROYTALUKDAR

Congress's Anta bypoll win in Rajasthan has perhaps dented the Vasundhara Raje brand in Rajasthan more than anyone else. While the ruling BJP and Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma have certainly taken a hit after Congress' Pramod Jain Bhaya defeated Morpal Suman, the outcome is being seen primarily as a personal setback for the former chief minister.

The loss may push Raje's political wilderness into sharper relief. And her quest for a revival through the Anta bypoll appears to have reached a dead end. Not only is her own influence under question, but the political future of her son and MP Dushyant Singh also hangs in the balance.

Anta falls in Baran district, the stronghold of Raje and Dushyant Singh, who is a five-time MP from the area. Morpal, widely regarded as a Raje loyalist, was backed heavily by both mother and son. In the 2023 Assembly polls and even the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Raje had kept her campaign engagement limited. This time, however, she and Dushyant coordinated the campaign extensively. The defeat, therefore, is being read as her personal failure rather than a party setback.

Although the loss is a blow for the BJP, party insiders say Raje's rival factions view it as a boon in disguise. A win would have bolstered her image, reaffirmed her grassroots appeal, and strengthened her claims to renewed relevance.

Political observers say that the defeat is being blamed squarely on Raje, while CM Sharma and state BJP president Madan Rathore appear to have escaped scrutiny. Some argue that leaders in Delhi—and several of her state-level rivals—may have been quietly hoping for such a result, which would underline her waning influence. Others contend that nominating a relative of disqualified MLA Kanwarlal Meena might have yielded better results.

"Raje was perhaps deliberately given a free hand in choosing the candidate. She chose her loyalist, the low-profile Morpal, who has only served as a panchayat pradhan. She made personal calls to voters, held roadshows, canvassed widely and worked hard. Although the CM also held roadshows, heavyweight ministers like Kirori Lal Meena stayed away. BJP leaders left the outcome to Raje and avoided taking collective responsibility. As a result, she can neither push for her supporters in the impending Cabinet reshuffle nor expect her son to be considered for a ministerial berth. This may well be a ploy to cut them down to size, engineered by her own party colleagues with the blessing of the high command," political commentator Narayan Bareth told *DH*.

Interestingly, after the defeat, Raje's X handle focused only on congratulatory posts about the BJP's sweeping win in Bihar, with no mention of the Anta setback. Intra-party friction and the late announcement of the BJP candidate also contributed to the loss.

The bypoll was held after BJP MLA Kanwarlal Meena was disqualified following his conviction in a 20-year-old case.

"Congress, on the other hand, announced Pramod Jain Bhaya's candidature early, reposing faith in this popular leader, whose social outreach is immense. A protégé of Congress minister Shanti Dhariwal, a close Gehlot aide, Bhaya sponsors mass marriages for poor girls and conducts extensive charity work in the region," notes political observer Prakash Bhandari.

With this win, Bhaya becomes a four-time MLA and remains firmly in Gehlot's inner circle. Senior Congress leaders, including state president Govind Singh Dotasra, Tikaram Jully, Sachin Pilot, Sukhwinder Singh Randhawa, and Gehlot himself, canvassed in the final phase, mobilising the Mali community's support.

Morpal, also from the Mali community, failed to consolidate those votes – proving decisive in Bhaya's victory. Congress also micromanaged every booth this time.

Mali and Meena voters each number around 35,000 and hold the key to the constituency. But the Meena vote split due to independent candidate Naresh Meena, who finished just 128 votes behind BJP's Morpal and garnered over 29% of the vote share.

While the victory brought some cheer to the Congress in Rajasthan, its morale was tempered by the party's rout in Bihar. Still, Congress' narrative of a *parchiwali sarkar* – portraying CM Sharma as dependent on instructions from Delhi – seems to have worked. The party also highlighted its welfare schemes, including the popular Chiranjeevi health programme.

The Anta loss may not significantly affect the chief minister, who is expected to continue, but the sudden transfer of Chief Secretary Sudhanshu Pant to Delhi has caused disquiet. Pant, formerly health secretary in the Union government, was deputed to help first-time CM Sharma in 2024–a move seen as a tactical intervention from the Centre.

Initially dubbed the state's '*de facto* CM', Pant's authority had gradually waned as other officers drew closer to Sharma. Tensions reportedly emerged over official transfers, appointments, and what some officials described as a lack of administrative autonomy. Some files were being sent directly to the CMO, bypassing the chief secretary's office, in violation of protocol. Though his return to Delhi is officially described as voluntary, the persistent turf wars between the bureaucracy and political leadership appear to be real.

Whether Pant's premature exit means Sharma is finally asserting himself and mastering political manoeuvring remains to be seen. However, the Anta loss–seen by some as orchestrated by certain BJP factions – validates the view that Raje continues to pose a challenge and that efforts to thwart her political comeback are far from over.

Seven years ago, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman couldn't visit Washington. Now, he got F-35s, the world's fastest chips and a role in the remaking of the Middle East

DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

Once a pariah, Saudi Prince resets US ties on his terms

DAVID E SANGER

Seven years after Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia was effectively banished from Washington after the murder of a prominent Saudi dissident, he returned on Tuesday to a welcome meant to signal that he sat at the centre of President Donald Trump's effort to build a new Middle East.

It was, perhaps, the most astounding geopolitical restoration of modern times. The *de facto* leader of the largest and richest of the Arab states, who President Joe Biden said should be treated as a "pariah" six years ago, reset relations on his own terms.

The crown prince got a commitment from Trump for F-35 stealth fighters, over Israel's objections. At the same time, he managed to push off, most likely for years, any discussion of Saudi Arabia joining the Abraham Accords and recognising the Jewish state.

"We want to be part of the Abraham Accords, but we also want to be sure that we secure a clear path of a two-state solution," Crown Prince Mohammed said in the Oval Office, uttering the phrase he knew that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would reject outright, as would much of the rest of Israel's political establishment.

"We want peace with the Israelis," he insisted. "We want peace with the Palestinians, we want them to coexist peacefully."

Then, with the traditional business of the past 75 years of Middle East diplomacy pushed aside, Crown Prince Mohammed uttered the words he knew his host wanted to hear, promising upward of $1 trillion in purchases and investments in the United States—more than the size of his country's sovereign wealth fund. (The crown prince carefully avoided saying over what period of time the investments would be made, recognising that the president sought a big dollar figure, whether it was realistic or not.)

In return, it appears Crown Prince Mohammed has a commitment for access to America's most advanced computer chips, critical to building the vast data servers central to his plan to turn his country into an artificial intelligence powerhouse, with the electricity-hungry processors powered by a mix of Saudi oil and renewable energy.

And without ever mentioning China, he made it clear in the run-up to the visit that Beijing was willing to step in to supply any technology that Washington hesitated to provide. "We are seeing the ultimate 'comeback visit,'" said Meghan O'Sullivan, an energy expert and former Bush administration official who now directs the Belfer Centre at Harvard.

"MBS has made Saudi Arabia more relevant to US interests than ever before," she said, referring to Crown Prince Mohammed by his initials. She said he was "aligning an aggressive tech strategy and an oil policy which is helping keep prices low."

"At the same time," she added, "he has skillfully played the China card, suggesting that what Washington holds back will effectively be supplied by Beijing, undermining Washington arguments for restraint."

The crown prince did not get everything he sought. A nuclear deal, which has been discussed and debated with Washington for a decade, was pushed into the future again, with the two sides agreeing to some unspecified deadlines for resolving the thorny issue of whether the Saudis would be permitted to enrich their own uranium. Such capability would give them self-sufficiency in making reactor fuel — and the technology to build their own nuclear weapons, which has long been the sticking point.

It was also unclear whether the two sides had reached a full-scale defence pact, which both sides have been declaring is imminent. There was little public discussion of it in the Oval Office. And the White House published a vague "fact sheet" rather than the agreement itself, which mentioned several areas of cooperation, but fell well short of the kind of mutual defence commitments the United States has with, say, Japan, South Korea and the Philippines.

But in winning his case to put America's most advanced fighters on the runways of Saudi air bases and the most advanced American chips into the data centres, Crown Prince Mohammed is integrating his country into the American tech stack. And he knows these are more than jets and chips. They are symbols that the Saudis see themselves as part of the extended "West," just shy of a quarter-century after the Sept. 11 attacks were pulled off largely by Saudi citizens.

For now, among Middle East powers, only Israel possesses the F-35, a monopoly it considers critical to the "qualitative military edge" America has long guaranteed for the country. Trump has not addressed the question of how to square that commitment with his decision to sell the advanced fighters to the Saudis. The White House fact sheet omitted a basic fact: how many F-35s the Saudis would be able to order.

Political scientists and Middle East experts will study for years how the crown prince pulled this off. It was not a forgone conclusion that he would be able to, even with his mix of social reform and political brutality at home. But it helped that the young Saudi leader has developed a dead-accurate reading of how to manage the American president.

The first clues came in 2018, in the months after the dismemberment of Jamal Khashoggi, the one-time Saudi official-turned-dissident and a columnist for *The Washington Post.*

Trump, only a year in office, said it was not clear who was responsible for the killing, which took place in Turkey. But Trump said if the crown prince were responsible, he would be held responsible.

Then, inconveniently, the CIA issued a report saying with high confidence that the crown prince had known about the plot and had most likely approved an order to capture or kill the dissident. The report immediately leaked, to the administration's fury. But it was clear the crown prince could not step on American territory without facing protests, at best.

By the time the second Trump administration took office, it was the crown prince's moment. So it was no surprise that Trump reacted with fury when an *ABC* reporter asked Crown Prince Mohammed about that CIA report. Trump defended the crown prince, noting that Khashoggi was "extremely controversial," as if that were a justification for murder.

"Things happen," Trump said, the dismissive phrase that is likely to linger long after his guest departs from Washington.

The crown prince, clearly ready for the question, was armed with a better answer. "It's really painful to hear anyone losing his life for not real purpose or not in a legal way," he said, adding, "We've improved our system to be sure that nothing happened like that" in the future.

It may be months, or years, before anyone can conclude, with certainty, whether the deals announced Tuesday are as big as both leaders described them. Congress gets to vote on the F-35s, and the wait-list is long: About 20 countries either possess the planes or have them on order. They cost about $80 million to $110 million each, depending on the model, and it may be a while before any are racing down Saudi runways.

Much can go wrong between now and then. The same is true for nuclear reactors: If the Trump administration adheres to the law, any agreement giving Saudi Arabia significant nuclear capability is subject to congressional approval, and who controls the enrichment technology will be critical.

The chips and data centres should move faster, and will be an early bellwether.

Of course, as the US learned with China, there is far more to a full diplomatic relationship than business deals — national interests, human rights, common values are all part of the mix. Little of that was discussed on Tuesday, at least in public.

But in the Trump era, relationships are measured in swag, not treaties. And after the meetings on Tuesday, the crown prince's aides were seen leaving the White House with gift bags in hand, including one embossed with the president's signature—in gold, of course.

The New York Times

Why politicians cannot replace AI

ADITYA MUKHERJEE

The proposition that politicians might one day replace artificial intelligence (AI) sounds like the opening line of a cosmic joke—an idea so structurally improbable that even Douglas Adams, master of intergalactic absurdity, would raise an eyebrow and ask, "Have you considered using a towel instead?" It is rooted less in real political or technical reasoning than in science fiction—the cheerful kind that imagines humans becoming far more efficient than they actually are.

At first glance, politicians and AI share a few superficial similarities. Both communicate in full sentences, often confidently. Both generate long speeches. Both claim to have the answers. And both occasionally produce content that feels suspiciously automated. But the resemblance stops there. The gulf between AI and the political class is not just wide; it is ontological.

To begin with, AI is trained, while politicians are processed. AI systems accumulate data, integrate it, and try—however imperfectly—to update their models. Politicians accumulate experiences, talking points, and public-relations instincts, and then rapidly prune away anything that might later be used against them. One evolves by learning; the other evolves by strategic forgetting. If AI forgot as frequently as politicians do, every chatbot would begin answers with "I don't recall the specifics of that situation," and every search query would return, "That depends on the committee report."

Error correction is another point of divergence. When AI makes a mistake, it usually apologises—immediately and unprompted. When a politician errs, an entire communications team materialises like a Greek chorus, generating euphemisms, context, subtext, counter-text, and "what I actually meant was..." narratives.

AI systems also maintain consistency. A model cannot say one thing today, the opposite tomorrow, and claim nuanced interpretation on the third day. A politician, however, considers this flexibility not a bug but a badge of honour: the ability to face both north and south without turning one's head. Where AI seeks coherence, politicians seek coalitions; the truth is what survives the parliamentary vote.

Importantly, AI is not driven by electoral compulsions. It does not adjust its answers based on opinion polls, party whips, or the sudden realisation that its most ardent supporters live in swing constituencies. AI does not perform political acrobatics—promising one thing to urban voters, another to rural voters, and a third to itself in private. It has no constituency except logic, no ideology except probability, and no manifesto except its training corpus.

Some might argue that politicians possess something AI does not: emotional intuition. But this is precisely where the structure collapses. AI is criticised for being too mechanical, too literal, and too rational. Politicians, conversely, are criticised for being insufficiently literal, excessively emotional, and allergic to rational constraints—budgetary or otherwise.

Consider a useful literary parallel. In George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, the pigs master the art of adjusting commandments while insisting that nothing has changed. If AI behaved like this, it would push software updates that rewrote their own patch notes: "Version 3.1—No major modifications except the removal, revision, and redefinition of all previous rules." Fortunately, AI lacks the instinct to quietly edit its own constitution at midnight.

Another reference is Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Conrad's narrator journeys into the unsettling depths of human ambition, discovering that the real threat lies not in the wilderness but in the human appetite for power. If an AI were dispatched into this metaphorical forest, it would return with a neat taxonomy of vegetation types and a probability distribution of risks.

The bottom line is this: AI is built for pattern recognition; politicians are built for narrative construction. AI aims for precision; politicians aim for persuasion. AI optimises outputs; politicians optimise optics. You can ask AI the same question a thousand times and receive stable answers. Ask a politician the same question twice, and you may discover parallel universes.

AI cannot replicate the political instinct for contingency, charisma, double-speak, negotiation, or the fine art of shaking hands while calculating vote-share differentials. And politicians cannot replicate the computational rigour, consistency, and empirical neutrality of AI.

In short: AI will not replace politicians, and politicians cannot replace AI. One operates on algorithms; the other on alliances. One calculates; the other narrates. One seeks accuracy; the other seeks advantage.

And somewhere in that asymmetric dance lies the reason both continue to exist—and why, for the foreseeable future, neither is going out of business.

(The writer is a Delhi-based journalist)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: NOVEMBER 1975

Havanur calls for parity with basic rights

Bangalore, November 19
The Karnataka Backward Classes Commission has pleaded for the amendment of the Constitution, making Directive Principles equal in status to Fundamental Rights and enforceable through the courts of law. Briefing pressmen after presenting the commission's report to Chief Minister Devaraj Urs here today, commission Chairman L. G. Havanur said that the judicially-ascribed superiority to Fundamental Rights and inferiority to the Directive Principles was aligned to the Hindu concept of graded inequality.

25 YEARS AGO: NOVEMBER 2000

Centre announces truce in Kashmir during Ramzan

New Delhi, Nov 19
In a significant move to bring peace in strife-torn Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre today announced suspension of combat operations against the militants in the state during the holy month of Ramzan beginning from the end of this month. Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee in a statement issued here said he hoped that the gesture would be "fully appreciated and all violence in the state and infiltration across the Line of Control and the international border will cease and peace will prevail".

OASIS | S RADHA PRATHI

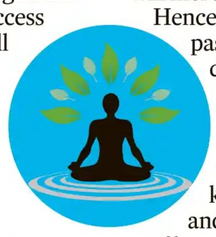
Balancing positive thinking with hard work

People from all walks of life are regaled with success stories, and they are encouraged to polish their attitude and reinforce their mental strength.

Workshops, personality development courses, counselling sessions, *et al* are mushrooming all over to revive the upbeat strain in people.

Positive thinking is certainly an important element on the path to success. The world will certainly be a better place if it is populated by optimists as a result of these endeavours.

Yet a casual glance around us will reveal that there is a flip side to this scenario. More and more people are becoming overconfident and disillusioned in the name of positive thinking. They are losing sight of ground realities and live life as if success will unfold if they simply will it to do so.



While it is important to be optimistic, one must not underrate the importance of setting a goal and working on it consistently and sincerely despite the obstacles. Any project, be it at a physical, mental or spiritual level, will not put anyone on the pedestal of success by merely manifesting it in the mind.

So also, when one works only out of a sense of bounden duty, the venture will merely translate into a chore.

Hence, a dollop of involvement and passion invested in the activity can fetch us rich laurels.

Kahlil Gibran summed up this thought succinctly when he said, "Work is love made visible." It is common knowledge that earnestness and fervour are components of love. Hence, it is mandatory that work, no matter how trivial it may be, must be treated as a labour of love. The journey of reaching one's target will become enjoyable if it is done with genuine sincerity and passion.

When these essential factors are functional and in place, a positive attitude will act as the soup stone. It will ensure that the individual does not get demoralised or dejected when faced with setbacks or failures. When one happens to be working in a team, then sporting the right spirit will prove to be infectious and will boost the morale all around.

Ninety-nine per cent perspiration and one per cent inspiration is the recipe for success! Hence, positive thinking is like a spice which can flavour the recipe of success; it cannot be used as the main ingredient!

SC verdict today on presidential reference over timelines for Guv

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court is scheduled to pronounce its opinion on President Droupadi Murmu's reference on whether timelines can be imposed on Governors and the President for granting assent to bills passed by state legislatures, on Thursday.

A five-judge Constitution bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai had reserved its opinion on September 11, after 10 days of proceedings, wherein arguments were heard from the Centre, several state governments, political leaders, parties and others.

On April 8, a two-judge bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan in the case of State of Tamil Nadu against Governor of Tamil Nadu, held that the Governor must act within three months if withholding assent or reserving a Bill, and within one month when a bill is reenacted.

It also prescribed that the President should decide on the Bills reserved for her consideration by the Governor within three months from the date on which such a reference is received.

The court had also declared that the Tamil Nadu Governor's decision to withhold assent to 10 bills was 'illegal' and 'arbitrary'.

It used the power under Article 142 of the Constitution to declare those bills as passed and assented.

Telangana govt to distribute 1 cr sarees to women

HYDERABAD, DHNS: The Telangana government has announced it will distribute 1 crore sarees to women across the state as part of its women's empowerment initiative.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy launched the Indiramma saree distribution programme on the occasion of former prime minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary on Wednesday.

He said the sarees — which are being made entirely by handloom workers from Sircilla — would be given to eligible women in two phases.

All women in villages would receive sarees.

Talaq-e-Hasan under lens; SC hints at review by larger bench

Court wonders if a civilised society can allow it

DIVORCE PRACTICE

- Practice allows divorce by pronouncing 'talaq' once a month over three months
- SC says society at large is involved, remedial measures must be taken
- SC hears journalist petitioner; notes plight of less-privileged women suffering in silence
- Questions why husbands authorise lawyers to issue divorce notices instead of contacting wives directly
- Triple talaq was struck down in 2017 as unconstitutional and arbitrary

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Wednesday deprecated the practice of Talaq-e-Hasan, saying that it may consider referring the challenge to its validity among Muslims in India to a larger five-judge Constitution Bench.

Under Talaq-e-Hasan, a man can dissolve a marriage by pronouncing "talaq" once a month over a three-month period.

In 2017, the apex court declared triple talaq — another form of divorce prevalent in the Muslim community — unconstitutional, holding it arbitrary and violative of the fundamental rights of Muslim women.

A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant, Ujjal Bhuyan and N Kotiswar Singh questioned whether a civilised, modern society should permit such a practice.

The court asked the parties to submit notes on the types of talaq recognised under Islamic practices. It said that the issue was not about striking down a religious practice but about regulating it in line with constitutional ethos.

"Once you give us a brief note, we will consider the desirability of referring the matter to a five-judge Constitution Bench. Provide us broadly with the questions that may arise. We will then examine how those are predominantly legal in nature and require judicial resolution," the SC said, adding that since the practice affects society at large, the court may have to step in with remedial measures.

The bench, which was hearing a batch of pleas filed by Muslim women challenging the validity of Talaq-e-Hasan pronounced by their husbands, heard petitioner Benazeer Heena, a journalist.

'Society involved'

The SC observed, "Society at large is involved. If there are gross discriminatory practices, then the court has to interfere."

Senior advocate MR Shamshad, appearing for Heena's ex-husband, submitted that among Muslims, it is a recognised practice whereby a husband can authorise another person to issue a divorce notice to his wife on his behalf.

"What kind of practice is this? How are you promoting it in 2025? Is this how the dignity of a woman is upheld? Should a civilised, modern society permit such a practice?" the bench asked Shamshad, questioning why the husband could not directly contact his ex-wife if he was able to reach his lawyer or any other person.

Heena broke down while narrating her difficulties, prompting the bench to ask her to file a simple application and assuring her of relief.

The bench noted that while Heena, as a journalist, could approach the top court, many less-privileged women may be suffering in silence.

Execute will to avoid litigation, top court urges women without kids, husbands

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Wednesday urged all married women, particularly Hindu women, who have no children or are widows to consider executing a registered will if they want their property to go to their family, saying that a will is essential to avoid potential litigations between their parents and in-laws.

A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan also said that a will was essential to avoid potential litigation disputes between their parents and in-laws.

It noted that Parliament, in its wisdom, had thought that the first-instance heirs of the husband should succeed and thereafter, upon the mother and father.

Referring to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, the bench said that possibly in 1956, Parliament, in its wisdom, thought that there might not be many women in this country who would have self-acquired property.

"However, the progress of women in these decades cannot be underestimated. Women in this country have progressed. Education, employment and entrepreneurship of women in this country, including Hindu women, has led to their acquiring property," said the bench.

It noted that if the self-acquired property was to go to the heirs of the husband, and if a Hindu woman died intestate and in the absence of sons, daughters, and husband, it could lead to heartburn as far as her maternal family was concerned.

"We appeal to all women, particularly Hindu women, who are likely to be in a position of Section 15 (1) (a) (Hindu Succession Act), at the time of their death, to take immediate steps to make a testament or a will, bequeathing their properties, including their self-acquired properties, in accordance with Section 30 of the Act, read with provisions of the Indian Succession Act," said the bench.

It added that it was important to safeguard the interests of not only women in this country in general but female Hindus in particular to avoid any further litigation in this regard.

The court disposed of a PIL filed by a woman advocate, Snidha Mehra, challenging Section 15(1)(b) of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.

She contended that the provision was arbitrary and violative of Articles 14, 15, and 21 of the Constitution, and needed to be struck down.

Hyderabad ricin plotter wanted to separate south from rest of India

FIR reveals ISKP connection and funds promise

POISON PLAN

- Hyderabad resident was arrested by Gujarat ATS
- He studied medicine in China, failed MCI exam, worked as medical consultant
- ISKP handler shared jihad material; appointed him 'amir of South India'
- Handler promised Rs 2 crore for weapons
- Plan to poison with ricin; directed to buy 10 kg castor seeds

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Hyderabad resident Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed (35), who was arrested by the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) on charges of plotting a ricin terror strike, allegedly wanted to "separate south India from the rest of the country".

According to the FIR, Saiyed — who studied medicine in China but reportedly failed to clear the MCI exam required to practise in India — told his handler from the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP), Abu Khadija of Afghanistan, that he needed money and weapons to pursue this plan.

ATS sources said Saiyed was employed as a medical consultant with a multinational firm, earning Rs 90,000 a month, and was also involved in a food business.

Earlier this month, he was arrested along with two other suspects from Uttar Pradesh for allegedly plotting a terror strike in the country.

The FIR, accessed by *DH*, states that about a year ago, videos were circulated in a Telegram group showing "Muslim girls being raped, a boy and some elderly men being lynched by mobs, and other acts of oppression against the community".

Saiyed is quoted in the FIR as saying that after watching those videos, he posted a message in the group: "All of you should unite and stop these non-believers (kafirs), and if you cannot stop them, then support me."

During this period, a person with a Pakistan number contacted him, claiming to have the means and offering him to join an organisation.

The FIR states that Saiyed came into contact with Abu Khadija through Telegram. Khadija later shared videos, speeches and books on jihad. Saiyed is said to have told him that he lived in south India, wanted to unite young Muslims and planned to separate the region from the rest of the country, for which he sought money and weapons.

Khadija allegedly promised Saiyed funds to purchase weapons and "appointed him amir (commander) of South India". The handler is said to have assured him of Rs 2 crore for "purchasing weapons to fight against the Indian government". Acting on instructions, Saiyed travelled to Ahmedabad, collected Rs 1 lakh, and returned.

It was Khadija who allegedly outlined a plan to "poison people with ricin" and directed Saiyed to buy 10 kg of castor seeds. The ATS later seized about 4 kg of castor-bean mash and other materials from his home, days after his arrest in Ahmedabad.

The FIR states that, acting on Khadija's instructions, Saiyed procured castor seeds, extracted oil using a cold press machine and mixed the residue with acetone. He allegedly researched methods of making ricin online and stored the mixture.

Saiyed was arrested on November 7. The ATS recovered two Glock pistols, a Beretta and 30 live cartridges.

Kerala: 9-yr-old accident survivor to get Rs 1.15-cr compensation

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: A motor accident claims tribunal in Kerala has ordered a compensation of Rs 1.15 crore to a nine-year-old girl who has been in a coma after a road accident in February 2024.

Drishana of Vadakara in Kozhikode and her grandmother Baby were knocked down by a car while crossing the road.

While Baby died, Drishana has been in a coma due to head injuries.

Her financially weak family was struggling to meet the expenses.

The car that hit the two was initially untraced. It took almost a year for the police to track down the car and its driver, who had gone abroad and was subsequently held.

The tribunal ordered the insurance company to deposit the compensation in Drishana's bank account, and said Rs 25 lakh out of it could be used for her immediate medical expenses.

SC strikes down Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Wednesday struck down the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021, holding it undermined judicial independence as the government reintroduced certain provisions that were earlier negated by the top court.

A bench quashed the provisions of the 2021 Act, on appointment and tenure of tribunal members, while expressing disapproval of the manner in which the Union of India has repeatedly chosen to not accept the directions of this court on the very issues that have already been conclusively settled through a series of judgments.

"We have compared the provisions of the Tribunal Reforms Ordinance, 2021, and the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021. The comparison would show that all provisions which were struck down by this court, with minor tweaking, have been reproduced in the enactment," the bench said.

The court granted the Centre a period of four months to establish a National Tribunals Commission as consistently directed in the earlier verdicts. "The creation of such a commission is an essential structural safeguard designed to ensure independence, transparency, and uniformity in the appointment, administration, and functioning of tribunals across the country," it said.

Police personnel with Maoists arrested in a coordinated intelligence-led operation in Vijayawada. PTI

Seven more Maoists killed in Andhra encounter

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

In yet another encounter in the dense forest area of Andhra Pradesh, seven Maoists were killed on Wednesday morning.

Alluri Seetharamaraju district SP Amit Bardar said one of the deceased Maoists has been identified as Metturu Jogarao alias Tech Shankar.

They were killed in an exchange of fire with security forces in the GM Valasa area of Alluri Seetharama Raju district.

Security forces had been combing the forest belt following specific intelligence on the movement of armed cadres in the region and six Maoists were killed on Tuesday.

Tech Shankar, long associated with the Andhra–Odisha Border Special Zonal Committee, was known within the organisation for his skills in assembling improvised explosive devices.

50 held

Meanwhile, in one of the most comprehensive and intelligence-driven anti-Maoist crackdowns in recent years, the Andhra Pradesh Police arrested 50 CPI (Maoist) operatives from Krishna, Eluru, NTR Vijayawada, Kakinada and Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema districts on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Police sources said many of the arrested cadre fled from Chhattisgarh.

"Their presence inside AP indicates an attempt to reconstitute command structures after major leadership losses in Chhattisgarh. The capture of all three SZCM operatives in one coordinated operation marks a rare and decisive collapse of the top command layer of the CPI (Maoist) in the Dandakaranya region. The operation also resulted in the apprehension of a high-value cluster of divisional committee members—the most crucial operational tier in the CPI (Maoist) hierarchy responsible for directing armed actions, recruitment, logistics, supply chains, IED deployment and cross-border cadre movement," said Andhra Pradesh intelligence chief, Mahesh Kumar Ladda.

UP ATS seeks details of madrasa staff, students

LUCKNOW, PTI: The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad, in the aftermath of the recent Delhi blast, has stepped up its monitoring efforts and sought comprehensive details of madrasas, their students, and teaching staff across the eight districts under Prayagraj zone, officials said.

The ATS has written to minority welfare officers in Prayagraj, Pratapgarh, Kaushambi, Fatehpur, Banda, Hamirpur, Chitrakoot and Mahoba, asking for complete lists of students and clerics associated with madrasas in their areas.

The letter seeks names of students, their fathers' names, addresses and mobile numbers.

Kashmiri students face fallout of blast

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

As investigations into the 'white-collar terror module' and the recent Red Fort blast deepen, Kashmiri students studying outside the Union Territory have reported a surge in harassment, profiling and social isolation, prompting strong political pushback from leaders in the Valley.

Multiple accounts from students across northern Indian states suggest they are facing hostility after the arrest of two Kashmiri doctors linked to the alleged terror module.

Students say the fallout has gone far beyond security checks, spilling into daily discrimination and suspicion.

Several Kashmiri students told their families they were denied groceries at local shops, while others claimed that classmates insinuated their families had 'terror links' following the Delhi explosion.

Security personnel inspect lockers at a hospital in Kulgam on Wednesday. PTI

Many described a sudden shift in how landlords, peers and neighbourhoods viewed them, marked by mistrust, side glances and, in some cases, overt intimidation.

In Faridabad alone, reports indicate that over 2,000 Kashmiri students living in rented accommodations were recently questioned by local police to verify any possible connection to the module. Students allege that the exercise, though carried out in the name of security, has left them feeling singled out and vulnerable.

The rising distress has triggered an outcry in J&K, where political leaders and civil society have urged New Delhi to draw a clear line between legitimate counter-terror action and the stigmatisation of an entire community.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday appealed to the Centre to ensure that investigations into the Delhi blast do not translate into blanket suspicion of Kashmiri Muslims. "The guilty must face the harshest legal consequences," he said, but innocent students and ordinary citizens must not be made "collateral damage in the process."

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti also condemned the alleged harassment, warning against what she termed 'collective punishment'. The J&K Students Association alleged that students in several northern states are being subjected to profiling, sudden evictions, questioning without explanation, and intimidation.

PM Modi to attend G20 summit despite Trump boycott

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Friday leave for Johannesburg, South Africa, to attend the 20th G20 summit, which President Cyril Ramaphosa will host from Saturday to Sunday, and which US President Donald Trump will boycott.

With India being at the receiving end of the US President's tariff tirade, the G20 summit is expected to see Modi presenting New Delhi's perspective on inclusive and sustainable economic growth, the role of trade in building economies, financing for development, and the debt burden, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Modi will also reportedly participate in a meeting of the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) with Ramaphosa and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

Trump imposed a 50% tariff on imports from India and Brazil to the US, and 30% on South Africa's exports to his country.

Modi is also expected to speak on "A Resilient World – the G20's Contribution: Disaster Risk Reduction; Climate Change; Just Energy Transitions; Food Systems" as well as on "A Fair and a Just Future for All: Critical Minerals; Decent Work; Artificial Intelligence".

Chinese President Xi Jinping will also skip the summit, but Premier Li Qiang will represent the country in the conclave. The leaders of Argentina and Mexico will also not attend the summit.

SAFE HAVEN

TN farmer gives up 35-acre land to protect 'deer' friends

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

In 1996, R Gurusamy, who owns about 60 acres of land in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district, found two spotted deer grazing alongside his goats and cows on the banks of the Kousika river.

Gurusamy did not chase away the animals, but turned his farmland into a safe haven for the deer.

Almost three decades later, a part of Gurusamy's farm–a 35-acre land parcel where the animal first sought refuge while searching for food and water—is a mini sanctuary, home to a thriving herd of nearly 2,000 spotted deer.

"I never thought I was creating a deer sanctuary on my farmland," 74-year-old Gurusamy said with a smile.

The landscape is home to a thriving herd of nearly 2,000 deer. DH PHOTO

The farmer, who received about 60 acres of land as his share of the ancestral property, continues to cultivate crops in about 20 to 25 acres and converted the remaining land into a sanctuary for the spotted deer.

With trees and bushes all around, the 35-acre land parcel looks like a forest, creating the right environment for spotted deer, K Ravindran, president, Nature Society of Tiruppur, told *DH*.

"Gurusamy is an example of community-led conservation. Whenever I go to his farm, which is now home to 2,000 deer, I feel like I am in the dense Mudumalai forests. That's how beautiful the place looks," Ravindran said.

Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary (Environment and Forests), took to X over the weekend to share the 'endearing story' of Gurusamy and his commitment to protecting wildlife.

"Working with the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, he protected the area from poaching and built awareness among students and villagers. Today, this landscape is home to a thriving herd of nearly 2,000 deer," she said.

Gurusamy said, "It was very rare to spot deer in our village. I didn't chase them away. They became friends with my goats and cows and began to co-exist. The land slowly became their home. Since my land had dense thickets, the deer felt comfortable," Gurusamy said.

"Once the population started to increase, officials from the Forest Department began to help me. We never expected the number to increase to 2,000. It is a mini sanctuary for now," the farmer added.

Editors Guild highlights gaps in new data protection rules

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Editors Guild of India on Wednesday said that the recently notified Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules do not address the concerns around journalistic work falling within the purview of the law.

In a statement, the Guild said it had highlighted the DPDP Act's shortcomings, including the dilution of the RTI regime and the absence of any explicit journalistic exception, and asserted that the newly issued rules continue to leave critical questions unresolved for journalists and media organisations.

In July this year, S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), held a meeting with press bodies and assured that journalistic work would not fall within the purview of the DPDP Act, the Guild said.

The Guild has urged MeitY to issue a clear and categorical clarification exempting bona fide journalistic activity from the consent and processing requirements of the Act. "Ambiguous obligations around consent risk exposing journalists and newsrooms to compliance burdens that may impede routine reportage," it said.

Trusted, then targeted: Why advisers fall when leaders falter

Each time the ballot turns against them, it's the 'gatekeepers' who take the bullets

IN THE FIRING LINE

- Advisers thrive in good times, face fire after electoral setbacks
- They are trusted as conscience-keepers for lonely leaders, later accused of wielding disproportionate power
- Once a mentor to Tejashwi, Sanjay Yadav is now blamed for RJD family troubles
- Pandian & Sasikala are some influential aides who faced cadre backlash later

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Credited once, discredited now for mentoring Tejashwi Yadav, Sanjay Yadav finds himself at the receiving end of the RJD first family's troubles. But he may not be the first to face the music after an electoral debacle.

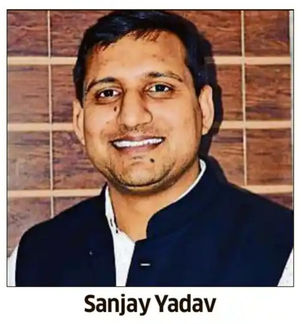
Whether it was former IAS officer VK Pandian in Odisha or VK Sasikala in Tamil Nadu, no one batted an eyelid when times were good. But the moment there was a setback — electoral or otherwise — those seen as the eyes, ears and sometimes the brains of the 'supreme leader' were the first to be pushed to the firing line.

Sanjay triggered tremors in the Lalu family when elder son Tej Pratap Yadav walked out of the party ahead of the elections, followed by daughter Rohini Acharya after the results. Both, along with a section of party workers, blame Sanjay for misleading Tejashwi into making wrong decisions.

Introduced to Tejashwi by Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav in the 2010s, the 41-year-old from Haryana, who quit his job in an MNC, has long been seen as a tutor to the RJD scion in socialist politics. He is said to have helped Tejashwi's political launch.

But Sanjay's influence on Lalu Yadav's successor has long caused heartburn within both the family and the party. Tej Pratap has branded Sanjay, a Rajya Sabha MP, a "traitor", while Rohini has accused him of telling her she had donated Lalu a "bad kidney".

"At the top, leaders are lonely, and that is why we see such characters with whom they share their insecurities. They may not want to open up in a party forum, but these conscience-keepers act as buffers and sounding boards. Over time, they derive power, and leaders prefer to lean on them to manage party affairs," political commentator Rasheed Kidwai said.


Sanjay Yadav

If Jawaharlal Nehru had MO Mathai, who eventually fell out with the first prime minister, Indira Gandhi had RK Dhawan, ML Fotedar and Yashpal Sharma, while Rajiv Gandhi relied on Vincent George. BJP veteran LK Advani leaned on Sudhindra Kulkarni, and Mulayam Singh Yadav's Man Friday was Amar Singh.

Most of these "gatekeepers" emerged from outside the political stream, unlike the late Pramod Mahajan, who was a sounding board for Atal Bihari Vajpayee; Amit Shah for Narendra Modi; Ahmed Patel for Sonia Gandhi; and KC Venugopal for Rahul Gandhi.

"All these leaders have faced questions, but none of them lost their political power because of their grounding in politics," a senior leader said.

Pandian, an IAS officer who quit the service to join the BJD, was seen as one who could influence Naveen Patnaik, while Sasikala was the conscience-keeper of the late Jayalalithaa through good times and bad. Both eventually faced the ire of BJD and AIADMK cadres.

For top leaders, such conscience-keepers and advisers acted as substitutes for party forums where policy discussions should take place.

"All these people derived disproportionate power. They also became the convenient fall guys when there was a downfall," Kidwai added.

Nitish set to take oath as Bihar CM for 10th time today

PM, Shah to attend; suspense continues over deputy chief minister posts

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar reacts as he is being chosen leader of the NDA during a meeting with the newly elected MLAs of the alliance partners, in Patna, on Wednesday. PTI

Bihar is all set to witness a historic moment on Thursday when Nitish Kumar will take oath as chief minister of the state for the 10th time. Nitish was unanimously chosen as the leader of the NDA on Wednesday at a joint meeting.

Later, Nitish, along with other senior leaders of the alliance, met Governor Arif Mohammad Khan to tender his resignation as the head of the outgoing government.

The swearing-in will take place at the historic Gandhi Maidan in Patna on Thursday afternoon and will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Amit Shah and other CMs from the NDA-ruled states.

Earlier in the day, Nitish was elected leader of the JD(U) Legislature Party. At a separate meeting of the BJP leaders, Samrat Choudhary was elected leader of the BJP Legislature Party, with Vijay Sinha as the deputy leader. Incidentally, both Samrat and Vijay were the Deputy CMs in the outgoing Government.

However, suspense continues if the second Deputy CM will be from the saffron party or LJP(RV) chief Chirag Paswan could fill the slot. NDA sources said that the mist will be cleared once Home Minister Amit Shah arrives in Patna to attend the swearing-in ceremony on Thursday.

"Both options are open. One, there could be two Dy CMs from the BJP. Second, one person from the Centre could be appointed as Deputy CM," said the NDA source in an oblique reference to Chirag, who is currently serving as a Union minister.

The source added that while Chirag wanted his brother-in-law, Jamui MP Arun Bharti, to be sworn in as Dy CM, the proposal failed to cut much ice with both JD(U) and BJP. "Chirag is presently in the race for the Dy CM post," the source added.

Meanwhile, the JD(U) sought to have its own leader as the Assembly Speaker since the Legislative Council Chairman is from the BJP. However, top BJP leaders shot down the idea, arguing that since the CM chair was with the regional party, the Speaker's post should go to the saffron party. BJP leader Prem Kumar will likely be the new Speaker.

Prashant Kishor calls decision to not contest Bihar polls a 'mistake'

PATNA, PTI: Jan Suraaj founder Prashant Kishor on Wednesday claimed that his decision not to contest the Bihar Assembly polls could be considered a "mistake", and said he had never expected that his party would get less than 4 per cent votes.

His comment comes after the Jan Suraaj Party drew a blank in the elections.

In an interview, Kishor said, "My decision not to contest polls can be considered a mistake. We have to do a lot to achieve a satisfactory result. I had never expected that our party would get less than 4% votes in the Assembly polls."

The former poll strategist also asserted that his effort would continue to win future elections. "I will not back down without winning Bihar. I don't know how much time it will take," he said.

Another Bengal BLO dies; Mamata asks EC to stop SIR

KOLKATA, DHNS: After a Booth Level Officer (BLO) engaged in Special Intensive Review (SIR) of the electoral rolls in West Bengal died, allegedly due to excessive work pressure, the state's Chief Minister and ruling Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee hit out at the Election Commission (EC), urging it to halt the exercise.

"I urge the ECI (Election Commission of India) to act with conscience and immediately halt this unplanned drive before more lives are lost," Banerjee wrote on X, alleging that 28 people had already lost their lives since the launch of the SIR in West Bengal — "some due to fear and uncertainty, others due to stress and overload".

A Booth Level Officer oversees the filling of enumeration forms by voters for the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, in Malda district, West Bengal. PTI

At least five BLOs have died in West Bengal, Rajasthan, and Kerala since the EC launched the SIR in 12 States and Union Territories earlier this month.

The body of Shantimuni Ekka (48), an anganwadi worker serving as a BLO, was found hanging from a tree near her home in the Jalpaiguri district's New Glencoe tea garden area on Wednesday. Her husband Sukh said she had been going out at night for the SIR after working at the anganwadi throughout the day and completing her household chores.

Sukh alleged that Shantimuni had to attend to several people who visited their residence in the evening to fill up their enumeration forms and correct errors. She could not take the "unbearable pressure" and visited the local block development officer's office to seek relief from SIR-related work, but was snubbed, he said.

Shantimuni's death came days after another BLO, Namita Hansda, died of a brain stroke in Purba Bardhaman. Her family, too, blamed the workload hike for her death.

The office of the Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal has sought a report from the local administration on Shantimuni's death.

TN tops pending voter forms

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Around 61.55 lakh of the 50.97 crore enumeration forms are yet to be distributed in the second phase of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, with Tamil Nadu accounting for nearly half of the pending forms and Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan showing substantial gaps.

Tamil Nadu has distributed enumeration forms to 6.10 crore of its roughly 6.41 crore voters, leaving around 31.05 lakh to be covered. Kerala, which has a total of 2.78 crore voters, has handed out forms to 2.69 crore voters, with a shortfall of 8.33 lakh.

'Civil society' public letter slams Rahul's EC barbs

NEW DELHI, DHNS: A group of 272 eminent Indian citizens — including 16 former judges, 123 retired bureaucrats, 14 ex-ambassadors, and 133 retired armed-forces officers — has written a strongly-worded open letter to Rahul Gandhi and the Congress.

Rahul Gandhi

Titled "Assault on National Constitutional Authorities", it accused Opposition leaders of using "venomous rhetoric" and making "provocative but unsubstantiated accusations" that undermine faith in the Election Commission (EC) and other democratic institutions.

The signatories claimed that instead of offering policy alternatives, some political figures were resorting to theatrical strategies that fabricated a narrative of institutional breakdown. They particularly called out Gandhi for repeatedly claiming "vote theft" without filing a formal complaint or affidavit.

"We, the senior citizens of civil society, express our grave concern that India's democracy is under assault, not by force, but by a rising tide of venomous rhetoric directed toward its foundational institutions," the letter stated. It referred to Gandhi's statements — that he had "100% proof" and an "atom bomb" against the EC — and noted that he even threatened to "hound" current or former EC officials.

"Using unbelievably uncouth rhetoric..., he has said that what he has found is an atom bomb and that when it explodes, the EC will have no place to hide. He has also issued threats... that whoever [is] in the Election Commission... will not be spared... According to him, the ECI is indulging in treason. He has gone on record to threaten... [that] he will hound them," the letter read.

AIADMK launches talks with parties to expand NDA in Tamil Nadu

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

POLL ADJUSTMENTS

- AIADMK reached out to DMDK, PMK for an alliance
- DMDK-AIADMK relations strained earlier over a Rajya Sabha seat
- PMK marred by internal family rift
- NDA aims to finish seat-sharing by February 2026

Fresh from its spectacular victory in Bihar, the NDA in Tamil Nadu, led by the AIADMK, has moved to expand the alliance for the 2026 Assembly polls by reaching out to DMDK and PMK, which is beset with internal trouble.

Despite the BJP and AIADMK reviving their ties in April, no party has so far joined the NDA even as small players like T T V Dhinakaran's AMMK and O Panneerselvam left the fold.

Touching base

With just a few months left for the elections, AIADMK has begun touching base with parties that have been part of the NDA in the past.

On Monday, AIADMK leader R B Udhayakumar met DMDK chief Premalatha, wife of late actor Vijayakanth, in Madurai, while PMK legislator from Mettur, P Sadasivam, met AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami in Salem. The same day, Tamil Maanila Congress (TMC) chief G K Vasan, a constituent of the NDA, also met Palaniswami and discussed the political situation in the state.

"We have taken the first step towards expanding the NDA. We don't have much time as we plan to finalise the alliance and conclude seat-sharing by February. DMDK and PMK were part of the NDA in the past, and we have formally reached out to them," a senior AIADMK leader told *DH*.

DMDK contested the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in an alliance with the AIADMK, but their relationship strained in 2025 after the latter overlooked the former for a Rajya Sabha seat.

Meanwhile, the PMK is interested in an alliance with the AIADMK, but the issue is the open war between the party's founder, S Ramadoss and his son Anbumani.

It is believed that Anbumani sent Sadasivam to meet Palaniswami to ensure that the AIADMK talks to him on alliance matters and not to his father. Sources said the AIADMK views the PMK as "one unit" and wants to engage with Ramadoss in matters of alliance as it was in the past, without overlooking Anbumani, in an act of balance.

"We have just contacted the parties and have launched the talks. For us to talk about seat negotiations, it will take time. But we want to build a rainbow alliance," the AIADMK leader added.

'Will wait for TVK'

Despite Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK) closing the alliance doors, a section within the NDA is still hopeful that actor-politician Vijay will join hands with them to defeat "common enemy", the DMK.

"A clear picture of the alliance will emerge only by the end of January. Though Vijay has said he will contest alone, we will wait for him till January. Otherwise, we will go to the election with parties that trust us," added another senior leader of the NDA.

विशेष शाखा, पुलिस मुख्यालय, मध्यप्रदेश, भोपाल

कमांकः–विशा / स्टोर / 2025–25(427), दिनांक–14.11.2025

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No. SB/Store/2025-25(401) Bhopal, Dated: 06-11-2025

"ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE"

E-tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police, Special Branch (G) M.P., Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following item on website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app:-

S. No.	Name of Item(s)	Qty.	Tender Fees (Rs.) Paid Online Through mptenders.gov.in	EMD (Rs.)	Tender No.
1	Under Vehicle Search Mirror	03	1,000/-	1,350/-	1st Tender
2	Hand Held Metal Detector	05	1,000/-	4,500/-	1st Tender
3	Multizone Door Frame Metal Detector	02	2,000/-	36,000/-	1st Tender
4	Baggage Scanner	01	2,000/-	45,000/-	1st Tender

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is nonrefundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & **must submit online through website** https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.
2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police (www.mppolice.gov.in)
3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website: https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
4. **Tender Schedule:**

No.	Tender Activity	Date & Time
i	E-Tender Publish Date	06/11/2025 at 1200 hrs.
ii	Tender document download Start Date	06/11/2025 up to 1600 hrs.
iii	Submission of written queries - through e-mail: **aigg-sb@mppolice.gov.in**	14/11/2025 up to 1700 hrs.
iv	Pre Bid Meeting along with written queries	17/11/2025 at 1200 hrs.
v	Bid Submission Start Date	18/11/2025 at 1000 hrs.
vi	Last date of online e-Tender submission	26/11/2025 up to 1600 hrs.
vii	Bid will be opened on	27/11/2025 up to 1600 hrs.
viii	Demonstration from Item No 1 & 2	04/12/2025 at 12.00 hrs.
	Item No 3 & 4	05/12/2025 at 12.00 hrs.

5. Intending Bidders are advised to visit this website regularly till closing date of submission to keep themselves updated as any change/ modification in the tender will be intimated through this website only by corrigendum /addendum/ amendment.
6. Bids will be opened as per date/time as mentioned in the Tender Critical Date Sheet. After online opening of Technical-Bid the results of their qualification as well Price-Bid opening will be intimated later.

Sd/- **D.I.G. of Police**
Intelligence (G) M.P. Bhopal
Tel. No. 0755-2443654

G-21658/25

Letter No.-01/Stha Dhruv Heli.-01/2022-(Part-II)-6944
Ranchi, Date:-19/11/2025
GOVT. OF JHARKHAND
DEPARTMENT OF HOME, PRISON & DISASTER MANAGEMENT

NOTICE
RECRUITMENT OF HELICOPTER PILOT

The Govt. of Jharkhand invites application from Indian Nationals for immediate enrolment as Helicopter Pilot, preferably Dhruv endorsed, on contract basis, Attractive terms and competitive compensation package will be offered.

Requirements-CPL(H) or ATPL(H) holder having at least 2000 Hrs. on helicopters including 500 Hrs. PIC experience and minimum 200 Hrs. on multiengine plus 50 hours of night flying preferably with IR and fit in current medical assessment. Pilots with PIC on Dhruv Helicopter would be given preference. Pilots having lesser experience, as aforesaid, may also be considered upon their experience and current license status.

Employment-Selected candidates will be employed on contract basis initially for a period up to December 2026.

Vacancy- 02 (Two)

Pay & Allowances- Rs. 5.00 Lakh per Month (Maximum)

Application- Curriculum Vitae including details of aviation experience, valid license & passport, current medical assessment along with recent passport size photograph must reach office of the **Principal Secretary, Home Department, Jharkhand Mantralaya, Project Bhawan, Dhruwa, Ranchi-834004 (Jharkhand)** by speed post or through email address:- **homejharkhand@gmail.com** within 15(Fifteen) days from date of publication of notice. Economy class air travel expense by shortest route for called candidates will be subject to reimbursement. Government reserves all rights of selection and recruitment.

sd/-
Under Secretary,
Department of Home, Prison & Disaster Management,
Govt. of Jharkhand.

PR.NO.366491 Home(25-26):D

Jharkhand Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (JIIDCO)
(A Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
5th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ratu road, Ranchi – 834001 (Jharkhand)
e-mail- jiidcoltd@gmail.com www.jiidco.co.in Phone no. 0651-3512851
CIN U45208JH2004GOI011078

Letter no: -617 **NOTICE INVITING TENDER** dated: -18.11.2025

(through e-procurement mode only-www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in)
NIT No.- JIIDCO/22/Women Hostel/SBD/2025-2026

Designation and Address of the Advertiser: -Chief Engineer, JIIDCO, 5th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ratu Road, Ranchi-834001

1. Mode of submission of tender : - Online through www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
2. Date of publishing on portal and website : - 24.11.2025
3. Start date for downloading of the Bid Documents: - 24.11.2025, 11:00 A.M onwards
4. Last date for submission of Bidding Documents : - 15.12.2025, up to 4:00 P.M.
5. Bid opening date (Technical) : - 16.12.2025 at 5:00 P.M.
6. Details of works : -

Bid No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost/ECV (Rupees)	Amount of Earnest money (E.M.D) (Rupees)	Cost of BOQ (Non-refundable in Rupees)	Time of completion of work (Months)
1	2	3	4	5	6
01	Construction of 100 Bedded Working Women Hostel at Devipur, Deoghar (Near AIIMS), Jharkhand	9,58,56,319.00	9,60,000.00	11,800.00	18 months
02	Construction of 100 Bedded Working Women Hostel at Plastic Park, Devipur, Deoghar, Jharkhand	9,58,56,319.00	9,60,000.00	11,800.00	18 months
03	Construction of 100 Bedded Working Women Hostel at Ormanjhi, Ranchi Jharkhand	9,58,56,319.00	9,60,000.00	11,800.00	18 months

7. Tender fee (non-refundable) & EMD is to be received through online mode only. Bidders can use internet banking facility for faster processing of Tender fee Alternatively, Bidders can use NEFT/RTGS challan generated for the tender from http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in. **portal.**
   Refund will only be issued to Originated bank account used for the payment of EMD. So, bidders are advised NOT to close the above Bank Account used for online payment NEFT/RTGS of EMD.
   No Hardcopy/Physical copy is required to be submitted for tender opening/evaluation. However, Department may ask original documents for verification before award of contract.
8. Bid Validity :- 180 days
9. Place of opening of Technical Bid : - JIIDCO, 5th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ratu Road, Ranchi-834001
10. For any information/complaints the department helpline no. M.b.no. 7004785102 may be contacted.
11. Further details can be seen on website- www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in.
12. Any Corrigendum or Addendum will be notified on website:- www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in only.

Note: (i) Any change can be seen on website www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
(ii) Any other information can be seen on www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
(iii) **The estimated cost mentioned above in sl. No.6 column no. 3 is approximate which may increase or decrease.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, JIIDCO Ranchi

PR 366357 Jharkhand Industrial Infrastructure Dev Co Ltd(25-26)#D

NIA takes custody of gangster Anmol Bishnoi after US deportation

Lawrence's brother is wanted in Baba Siddique, Sidhu Moose Wala murders

NEW DELHI, DHNS & PTI

Anmol Bishnoi, the brother of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and wanted in the murders of NCP leader Baba Siddique and singer Sidhu Moose Wala, was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) following his deportation from the United States to India.

Anmol was produced before Special Judge Prashant Sharma at the Patiala House Court, who sent him to 11-day custody even though the NIA sought 15 days.

The court also noted his alleged involvement in extortion, harming victims, and "identifying foot soldiers" of gangs for targeted killings and furtherance of terror activities. The judge said, "He is allegedly operating from abroad. He, along with co-accused persons, is alleged to be operating as a terror-gangster syndicate member. The said syndicate is involved in conducting terrorist activities."

Gangster Anmol Bishnoi being brought to the Patiala House Court, after his deportation from the US, in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

The court said that according to the NIA chargesheet, the accused was involved in 11 criminal matters under different police stations. He was brought to the court amid heavy security. Mediapersons were not allowed inside the courtroom.

He has been absconding since 2022 and is the 19th person to be arrested for being involved in the terror-syndicate led by his jailed brother Lawrence, said the NIA. He was detained in the US in June.

Anmol was chargesheeted by the NIA in March 2023 after investigations claimed he "actively aided" designated terrorist Goldy Brar and Lawrence in the commission of various terrorist acts in 2022-23. "Operating closely with various Bishnoi-gang associates, Anmol continued to run terror syndicates and execute terrorist acts from the US for the Lawrence Bishnoi gang," the NIA said.

Investigations also claimed Anmol provided shelter and logistical support to the gang's shooters and ground operatives. He was also allegedly involved in extortion in India from foreign soil.

Govt hikes fitness test fee for all 20-year-old motor vehicles

NEW DELHI, PTI: Months after the government increased renewal charges for older vehicles, the transport ministry has raised the fitness test fee for all motor vehicles older than 20 years to discourage people from keeping them.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH), in a latest notification issued on November 11, said the higher fee slabs now begin at 10 years for commercial vehicles, instead of 15 years, bringing more vehicles under the updated cost brackets.

It has created three clear age groups for fitness testing: 10-15 years, 15-20 years and above 20 years.

The fitness test fee for light motor vehicles (LMVs) older than 20 years has been increased to Rs 15,000 from Rs 10,000.

The notification has made steep revisions to the fitness test fee for heavy trucks and buses older than 20 years. They will now have to pay Rs 25,000 for the fitness test, from Rs 3,500 earlier.

Medium commercial vehicles in the same age group will now have to pay Rs 20,000, and the fitness test of light motor vehicles above 20 years will cost Rs 15,000.

The fitness test fee for two-wheelers above 20 years has also been increased to Rs 2,000 from Rs 600 earlier.

The ministry, in its earlier notification in August this year, increased renewal charges for older vehicles.

Pune land scam: Activists slam clean chit to Parth Pawar

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

A day after Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's son Parth Pawar got a virtual "clean chit" in the Pune land scam, whistleblowers and activists questioned it, calling it an insult to Maharashtra, even as the Maha Vikas Aghadi in the Opposition mounted a fresh attack on the BJP-led Maha Yuti government.

The demand for the resignation of Pawar, also the state's finance and planning minister and the guardian minister of the Pune district, is growing. Meanwhile, activists have asked for investigations into Parth's call data records.

Parth Pawar

"The 'clean chit' to Parth in the land scam is not just a joke, it's an insult to Maharashtra. He personally signed the LLP resolution that kicked off the entire fraud. The letter of intent from the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, stamp duty waiver worth crores, registration approvals — every document carries his signature. Yet he's declared 'innocent'. This isn't an investigation. This is the administration running cover for a dynasty," said activist Vijay Kumbhar.

"When the paper trail begins and ends with Parth, giving him a clean chit is either cowardice or complicity," Vijay added.

Activist Anjali Damania alleged that Parth's company sent security guards, who were like bouncers, to try and gain possession of the property at the centre of the scam with the help of the police.

"This matter is extremely shocking and serious. Until this inquiry (is over), Ajit Pawar must resign from the position of Deputy chief minister and the guardian minister of Pune," she said.

The reactions came after the Joint Inspector General of Registration-headed committee, in its report, indicted the three persons named in the related police FIR with no mention of Parth, apprently because his name was not found in a single document.

Mother, stepfather accused of indoctrinating Kerala boy to join Islamic State

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

A 15-year-old boy in Kerala was allegedly indoctrinated by his mother and stepfather with the intention of getting him to join the Islamic State (IS).

The Venjaramoodu police in rural Thiruvananthapuram registered a case against the boy's mother and her second husband, who are now believed to be in the UK.

Central intelligence agencies are understood to have collected details of the case, which was registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act on November 14 based on the child's statement.

Police sources said the boy's mother, who also hails from Thiruvananthapuram, initially married a native of the Pathanamthitta district.

The couple, along with their son, was living in the UK. The woman later converted to Islam.

The second accused, a family friend, became acquainted with her, after which she separated from her first husband. The boy was staying with his mother and her second husband in the UK.

The boy's stepfather allegedly tried to indoctrinate him over the past couple of years with videos related to Islamic extremism, with his mother supporting the effort.

Later, the boy returned to Kerala and was admitted to a religious study centre.

Authorities at the centre noticed his unusual behaviour and alerted his kin, who reported the matter to the police.

The veracity of the allegations was being examined, and further details could not be disclosed at this stage.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

PEOPLE WHO REALLY LOVE THEIR DOGS FEED THEM THE NEW POOCHIE POPPERS!!
WOW, YOU MUST REALLY LOVE YOUR DOG!
NOTE TO SELF: FAST-FORWARD THROUGH THE COMMERCIALS
Poochie Poppers
Poggie Toys

Hagar The Horrible

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I WAS AWAY FROM HOME FOR TWO WEEKS
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D MAKE IT... I THOUGHT I'D CRACK UP... INSTEAD, I FEEL AS THOUGH I'VE MATURED...
THERE'S YOUR MOTHER WAITING FOR YOU AT THE BUS STOP...
SO MUCH FOR MATURITY!

Marvin

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GORMO

LSFHA

TPOSTY

NAHLED

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play.Jumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A " " (Answers tomorrow)

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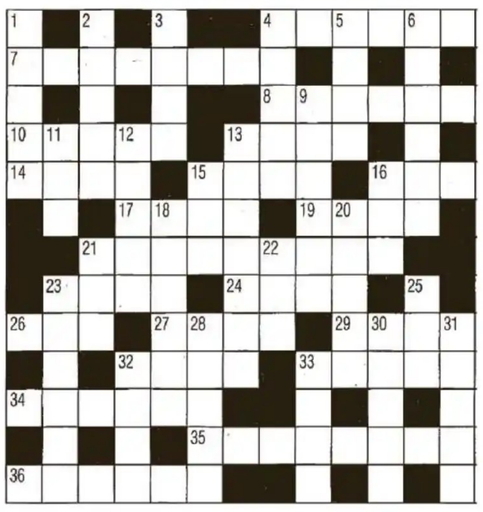
Yesterday's Jumbles: EERIE LOFTY ELEVEN SUGARY
Answer: The optometrists disagreed because they weren't — SEEING EYE TO EYE

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12292



ACROSS
4 Martial art (6)
7 Insinuation (8)
8 Quantity (6)
10 Hibernian (5)
13 Close angrily (4)
14 Far down (4)
15 Close to (4)
16 Young fox (3)
17 Precipitation (4)
19 Musical instrument (4)
21 Laugh uncontrollably (4,5)
23 Abominable snowman (4)
24 Minute (4)
26 Uncooked (3)
27 Pimple (4)
29 Heroic (4)
32 Rain heavily (4)
33 First-rate (5)
34 Lengths of metal links (6)
35 Having nowhere to live (8)
36 Fish hawk (6)

DOWN
1 Stiff (5)
2 Unfasten (5)
3 Net (4)
4 Marsupial (5)
5 Space (4)
6 Organ of taste (6)
9 Abandon ashore (6)
11 Agent (3)
12 Small fish (5)
13 Legislator, statesman (7)
15 Nothing (3)
16 Crib (3)
18 Girl's name (6)
20 Purchaser (5)
21 Hardly any (3)
22 Drill part (3)
23 Sailing vessels (6)
25 That man (3)
28 Offensively assertive (5)
30 Heaps (5)
31 Stop (5)
32 Buttress (4)
33 Entreaty (4)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS
4 Line offering an excursion in the Kentish area (6)
7 Inclination to write a simple song (8)
8 Fearfully apologetic? (6)
10 Set out to be a warm-hearted fellow (5)
13 Bank of Scotland! (4)
14 Regrets upsetting the user (4)
15 Little piggies? You're kidding! (4)
16 When told, was aware of what's going on (3)
17 Go and get a drunkard out of breath (4)
19 One ticket seller can look like all (4)
21 Sincere possibility of having left the RA (9)
23 Intestinal fortitude (4)
24 Noble groundsman? (4)
26 Such a lot is not such a lot (3)
27 It had a certain weakness for hushaby baby (4)
29 These females use copy (4)
32 Food for peanuts, not social workers (4)
33 Complaint of an irrational prig at the back of the queue (5)
34 China's fetters? (6)
35 Fellow determined to become exhausted (5,3)
36 Bakers can use them to slow things down (6)

DOWN
1 Impale fruit for the last of the Mohicans (5)
2 Harden in water! (5)
3 Why, going out East, something watery is wanted (4)
4 Look ready to burst into tears? (5)
5 Regiment and corps of high quality (4)
6 Ridiculous tripe about Victor making hedge (6)
9 Quicker to make a fatheaded bloomer (6)
11 Suspicious enough to start you ruminating (3)
12 When determined, you have the advantage (5)
13 A teetotaller in trunks, possibly green ones (7)
15 A hill in Pretoria (3)
16 It may have a bolt hole (3)
18 Rush around Athens? (6)
20 One thing you can look forward to getting (5)
21 A shack in south Utah (3)
22 Enemy, possibly of hearty friends? (3)
23 What collectors do, we understand (6)
25 Company short of material to perform (3)
28 Grates formed by spars (5)
30 I had to appear in a big success with her (5)
31 Stately homes for squatters? (5)
32 The epicure's choice, does one hear? (4)
33 Turns and leaves (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12291

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, Chaste 7, Ant-elope 8, L-ass 10, Hearty 11, Strict 14, Wey 16, Lines 17, Wend 19, Ca-le-b 21, Tones 22, Argus 23, W-asp 26, Chase 28, Can 29, It-ched 30, Potter 31, Else 32, Aleh-Ouse 33, Punter.
DOWN: 1, Cash-ew 2, Spare-d 3, Easy 4, Gentles 5, R-Odin 6, Tests 8, Lawn 9, Sty 12, Rib 13, Cents 15, Janus 18, Eight 19, Cog 20, Les 21, Treetop 22, Ash 23, Watson 24, A-NT-E 25, Porter 26, Cigar 27, Aches 28, Col. 30, Peep.

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Globes 7, Treasure 8, Safe 10, Avocet 11, Copper 14, Rod 16, Nasal 17, Eden 19, Dowel 21, Limit 22, Linen 23, Sell 26, Seven 28, Pad 29, Idiocy 30, Saline 31, Trot 32, Adequate 33, Pantry.
DOWN: 1, Grease 2, Beacon 3, Stet 4, Bayonet 5, Mumps 6, Pearl 8, Sore 9, Fed 12, Pal 13, Easel 15, Comet 18, Dated 19, Din 20, Win 21, Linctus 22, Leo 23, Saloon 24, Edit 25, Leeway 26, Sitar 27, Viper 28, Par 30, Step.

◆SU-DO-KU-6756◆

	4	7					5	
	9	5	7		2	4		
				5		1		
	5		8	6				4
		4				5		
8				7	5		6	
		2		4				
		9	2		7	8	4	
	1					3	7	

very hard

SOLUTION TO 6755

8	4	3	2	9	6	7	1	5
1	9	7	3	8	5	6	4	2
6	5	2	4	1	7	3	8	9
9	1	5	6	7	3	8	2	4
4	3	8	5	2	9	1	7	6
2	7	6	8	4	1	5	9	3
3	8	4	1	5	2	9	6	7
5	2	9	7	6	8	4	3	1
7	6	1	9	3	4	2	5	8

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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S M R N O Y A — Double Word Score — RACK 1
F E O R R S F — RACK 2
R A E E F D T — 4th Letter Triple — RACK 3
U O E D S N F — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 140-150
by JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

M A J O R E D
K N E A D E D
F A U L T Y
G U R G L E S

RACK 1 = 101
RACK 2 = 89
RACK 3 = 36
RACK 4 = 77
JUDD'S TOTAL 303

PAR SCORE 200-210

HITORI-3210

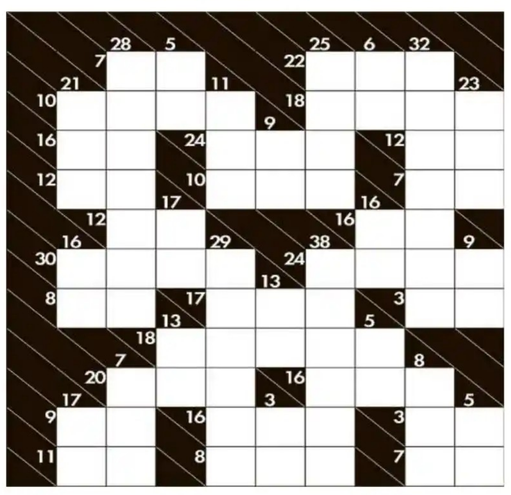
7	1	8	2	2	2	3	4
3	7	2	7	5	6	8	8
8	8	3	1	7	5	4	7
8	7	5	2	4	3	7	2
7	6	4	8	3	2	2	5
2	4	7	6	8	7	7	1
6	8	7	3	1	4	8	1
7	2	3	7	8	2	5	6

SOLUTION TO 3209

■	2	7	4	5	3	1	■
5	3	■	1	■	6	4	8
6	■	5	7	3	■	8	2
■	5	8	■	4	1	7	■
2	1	4	8	■	5	6	3
4	■	2	■	6	7	■	1
1	4	■	3	2	8	5	6
8	■	1	6	■	4	■	5

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3210



SOLUTION TO 3209

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3741

■			2			7		5
1	■					2	4	
		■				■		
			■		■	4		
			3	7		6		
			■		■			
4	7		6	3			1	
	■	1					■	
■	6	9	1	5			3	■

SOLUTION TO 3740

7	3	8	1	5	9	6	4	2
9	5	6	3	4	2	1	8	7
1	2	4	6	8	7	5	9	3
5	7	1	8	2	3	9	6	4
4	6	2	9	1	5	7	3	8
3	8	9	4	7	6	2	5	1
2	4	7	5	9	8	3	1	6
8	9	3	7	6	1	4	2	5
6	1	5	2	3	4	8	7	9

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

US report claims Pak's success over India in May 7-10 conflict

China used the clash to test and promote its advanced weapons, says report

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A report by a commission of the United States government has claimed that Pakistan succeeded in the four-day conflict with India between May 7 and 10, and China took advantage of the flare-up to test and advertise the sophistication of its weapons.

"Pakistan's military success over India in its four-day clash showcased Chinese weaponry," the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) claimed in its latest report.

"While characterisation of this conflict as a 'proxy war' may overstate China's role as an instigator, Beijing opportunistically leveraged the conflict to test and advertise the sophistication of its weapons, useful in the contexts of its ongoing border tensions with India and its expanding defence industry goals," the USCC added in its report presented to the US Congress recently.

The US commission's claim about 'Pakistan's military success over India' contradicts the statements of the political leaders and senior defence officials in New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, himself, had stated that India had showcased its capabilities during Operation Sindoor and brought Pakistan to its knees within a few hours.

The report noted that China's fighter jets and air-to-air missiles had received their first combat use as Pakistan successfully flew them during the conflict with India. "This marks the first known instance of these systems being tested in actual combat, providing the Chinese PLA valuable data and potentially boosting the credibility of China's defence exports," claimed the report. The report claimed that China initiated a disinformation campaign after the May 7-10 India-Pakistan conflict to hinder sales of French Rafale aircraft in favour of its own J-35s.

It noted that China used fake social media accounts to propagate AI images of supposed 'debris' from India's fighter jets that Pakistan destroyed using China's weaponry.

It took note of the statements of the military officials in New Delhi that China had helped Pakistan by providing 'live inputs' on military positions of India.

China provided approximately 82% of Pakistan's arms imports from 2019 to 2023.

The India-Pakistan clash between May 7-10 was the first time China's modern weapons systems, including the HQ-9 air defence system, PL-15 air-to-air missiles, and J-10 fighter aircraft, were used in active combat, serving as a real-world field experiment, the US commission reported.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A Ukrainian firefighter uses a water hose to extinguish a fire at the site of a Russian strike in Kharkiv on Wednesday. AFP

Russian drone and missile barrage kills 25 in Ukraine

▸ A large Russian drone and missile barrage on Ukraine's western city of Ternopil killed at least 25 people, including three children, authorities said Wednesday, as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy arrived in Turkey in search of diplomatic support for his fight against Russia's invasion, AP/PTI reports from Kyiv.

The nighttime attack hit two nine-story apartment blocks in Ternopil, located around 200 kilometres from the Polish border, according to Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko. Emergency crews were sifting through the rubble for survivors, he said. At least 73 people, including 15 children, were injured, emergency services said. Russia fired 476 strike and decoy drones, as well as 48 missiles of various types, at Ukrainian targets overnight, Ukraine's air force said. The bombardment included 47 cruise missiles, with air defences intercepting all but six of them. Western-supplied F-16 and Mirage-2000 jets intercepted at least 10 cruise missiles, it said. "Every brazen attack against ordinary life indicates that the pressure on Russia (to stop the war) is insufficient," Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram.

Israeli military strikes Lebanon

▸ The Israeli military carried out airstrikes in southern Lebanon Wednesday on what it said was Hezbollah infrastructure after a drone strike earlier in the day killed one person and wounded several others, including students on a bus, AP/PTI reports from Sidon (Lebanon).

The new wave of strikes came as tensions between Israel and militants are escalating. An airstrike Tuesday night killed 13 people in the Palestinian refugee camp of Ein el-Hilweh, the deadliest of Israeli attacks since a ceasefire in the Israel-Hezbollah war a year ago. The Israeli military warned Wednesday afternoon it would strike targets in several villages in southern Lebanon, describing them as Hezbollah infrastructure, and called on people to move away from the locations.

German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius gives a speech next to two new models of Leopard 2 A8 tanks in Munich on Wednesday. AFP

US Congress passes bill to release Epstein files

Trump can allow full disclosure or veto it

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI

TRANSPARENCY TEST

- Trump reversed his earlier opposition, helping the bill pass Congress with bipartisan support
- Even if Trump signs, insiders warn the administration may still use redactions to withhold details
- Justice Department must release unclassified files within a month once the bill is signed

Both the House and Senate acted decisively on Tuesday to pass a Bill requiring the Justice Department to publicly release its files on convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, marking a remarkable show of approval for an effort that had struggled for months against opposition from President Donald Trump and Republican leadership.

When a small, bipartisan group of House lawmakers introduced a petition in July to manoeuvre around House Speaker Mike Johnson's control of which Bills reach the House floor, it initially appeared a long-shot — particularly as Trump urged his supporters to dismiss the matter as a "hoax".

However, both Trump and Johnson ultimately failed to prevent the vote. The president has now bowed to the growing momentum behind the legislation and has said he will sign it. Just hours after the House passed the Bill, the Senate agreed to approve it with unanimous consent once it is formally sent across. The Bill passed the House 427–1, with the sole dissenting vote cast by Rep Clay Higgins, a Louisiana Republican and fervent supporter of Trump. Higgins said in a statement that he opposed the Bill because it could release information concerning innocent individuals.

The decisive, bipartisan action in Congress on Tuesday demonstrated the increasing pressure on lawmakers and the Trump administration to meet long-standing demands that the Justice Department release its case files on Epstein, a well-connected financier who killed himself in a Manhattan jail in 2019 while awaiting trial on charges of sexually abusing and trafficking underage girls.

CULTURAL SPOTLIGHT

Miss India Manika Vishwakarma walks on stage during the 2025 Miss Universe national costume presentation in Bangkok on Wednesday. Two judges have resigned days before the finals, with one accusing the organisers of rigging the selection process. AFP

Ready for military options against Russian ship: UK

Spy ship targets RAF pilots with lasers

LONDON, REUTERS

JOHN HEALEY
British defence minister

"We have military options ready should the Yantar change course

British Defence Minister John Healey said on Wednesday that "military options" are ready should the Russian spy ship Yantar become a threat after it directed lasers at British pilots sent to monitor it.

Britain's Royal Navy and Royal Air Force routinely shadow potential threats to national security, and such missions to monitor Russian vessels and submarines have become more frequent since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022.

Healey said that directing lasers at RAF pilots was "deeply dangerous", and Britain was prepared to respond depending on the Yantar's next move. "We have military options ready should the Yantar change course," Healey said.

Responding to what it called "endless accusations", the Russian embassy in London said: "Our country's actions do not affect the interests of the United Kingdom and are not aimed at undermining its security.

"We are not interested in British underwater communications," it added, urging "the British side to refrain from destructive steps that exacerbate the crisis phenomena on the European continent."

'Extremely serious'

The Yantar, designed for intelligence gathering and for mapping undersea cables, is currently on the edge of British waters, north of Scotland, Healey said, adding, "This is the first time we've had this action from Yantar directed against the British RAF. We take it extremely seriously."

"I have changed the navy's rules of engagement so that we can follow more closely and monitor more closely the activities of the Yantar when it is in our wider waters."

US border officials arrest Indian man wanted for murder

NEW YORK, PTI: A 22-year-old Indian citizen, wanted for murder in his home country and who illegally entered the US, has been arrested by border authorities here.

Vishat Kumar was arrested by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the Port of Buffalo, Peace Bridge border crossing on November 16 after he was denied entry into Canada. Kumar has an Interpol Red Notice against him and is wanted by law enforcement in India for murder, a CBP statement said.

Kumar was processed by CBP officers and turned over to officers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement/Enforcement Removal Operations (ICE/ERO). He is currently detained at the Federal Detention Facility in Batavia, New York awaiting removal proceedings from the United States, CBP said.

China threatens Japan with countermeasures

BEIJING/TOKYO, PTI: China on Wednesday asked Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi to retract "wrongful remarks" on Taiwan, warning that failing to do so would result in "countermeasures".

"If Japan refuses to retract those remarks, China will have no choice but to take serious countermeasures, and all the consequences will be borne by the Japanese side," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said. The warning comes a day after officials from the two countries held talks in Beijing.

Gunmen attack Nigerian church

ABUJA (NIGERIA), AP/PTI

Gunmen attacked a church in Nigeria and killed two people, authorities said, as the country faces Trump administration threats of US military intervention over allegations that Christians are persecuted there.

No group has claimed responsibility for Tuesday night's attack in Eruku town. Police responded to gunfire and found one person fatally shot inside the church, Kwara state police spokesperson Adetoun Ejire-Adeyemi said.

Meanwhile American rapper Nicki Minaj raised concerns about Christians in Nigeria at a United Nations event on Tuesday, calling attention to "the deadly threat." She thanked US President Donald Trump for urging action to protect Nigerian Christians, combat extremism and end violence against people exercising their right to freedom of religion. "No group should ever be persecuted for practising their religion," she said.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

CORRIGENDUM

Tender No.: 91251010A, Dated: 15/11/2025. The following Corrigendum against Tender No. 91251010A scheduled to be opened on 25.11.2025, at 11:00 Hrs. is carried out as under:- **Sl. No.; Particulars ; As per Tender Document ; To be Read** as follows : **[1]; Tender Opening Date** ; Existing ; **28.11.2025, 11:00 Hrs. [2]; Item Details Description;** Existing; Associated Components Of Machined Stator Assembly Each Set Consisting Of 11 Items. Drg. Nos. As Per Annexure-A, **Specn. No. 4TMS.096.068 REV.-2, ALT.2,** STR NO. RDSO/2007/EL/STR/0021 REV-1.

PR8/248 Dy.CMM(P)/CLW/Chittaranjan

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S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Sr. DEE(G)/Santragachi, South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur Division acting on behalf of the President of India invites open tender from respective eligible contractors through e-Tendering in **www.ireps.gov.in** website as per details mentioned below. Respective contractors are requested to apply for the same through online only, in **www.ireps.gov.in** website. No offline tender will be accepted for this tender. Please read the tender document carefully uploaded in the document section for details. **Tender Notice No.: Elect-Chg-25-26-LIFT-35, Date: 18.11.2025. Name of the work:** Kharagpur Division– Supply, installation, Testing & Commissioning of 07 nos. Lift (Mourigram-MRGM-02 nos., Nalpur-NALR-01 no., Bauria-BVA-01 no., Kulgachia-KGY 01 no. and Deulti-DTE-2 nos.) under Kharagpur Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 3,57,88,723.83. **EMD/Bid Security:** ₹ 3,29,000. **Tender closing date & time:** 09.12.2025 at 11.00 hrs. Tender Notice, tender document and other details are given in the **www.ireps.gov.in. (PR-854)**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF FLYASH AT SGWF

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Action for the following work:

Description of Auction Sale: Auction of approximately 64 Tons Flyash at Satellite Goods Terminal Whitefield Goods Shed.
Reserve Price:- Rs. 44,800/- (for 64 Tons Flyash at the rate of Rs. 0.70/- per Kg.)
Security Deposit : 10,000/-

Date & Time of Auction:
Upto 12:30 Hrs. on 02-12-2025

For details log on:
www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/656/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Bengaluru**

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Bid Number : GEM/2025/B/6886916
Dated : 13-11-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Hiring of man power for Gati Shakti Unit, Bengaluru Division for a period of 24 Months.	Rs. 10,67,22,893.09

Tender No. E-GSU-ELE-2025-26-OT-GeM-03

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 16:00 Hrs. on 04-12-2025

For details log on: http://gem.gov.in

Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Gati Shakti
PUB/658/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Unit / Bengaluru**

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Chhattisgarh InfoTech Promotion Society (CHiPS)
2nd Floor SDC Building, Raipur, Chhattisgarh 492002
Phone: 0771-4014158, Fax: 0771-4014158, Email: ceochips@nic.in

TENDER NOTICE

No.03/CEO/CHiPS/AADHAAR/AUA-KUA/2025 RAIPUR, DATED: 19-11-2025

Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHiPS), under Department of Information Technology, CG invites technical and financial proposal from reputed Bidder for **"Selection of Agency for Development, Implementation, Operation & Maintenance of Aadhaar and its Allied Service in the State of Chhattisgarh."**

The document can be downloaded from the website www.chips.gov.in & www.eproc.cgstate.gov.in

S-45964/2 CEO, CHiPS

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
Telecommunication Engineering Centre
K. L. Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001

No.1-7/2025-Pers./TEC

Notice for engagement of Consultants in TEC

Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), Department of Telecommunications (DOT), New Delhi intends to engage Consultants on short term contract basis for which applications are invited from eligible candidates who have retired from Government(Central/State) or BSNL/MTNL. The tenure will be initially for a period of six months, extendable upto a maximum of six terms (six months each) or sixty-five years of age whichever is earlier. The detailed guidelines and format of application are available at **www.tec.gov.in** and **www.dot.gov.in.**

The duly filled application may be sent by post or submitted personally to ADG(Pers.), TEC, K. L. Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001.

Last date for receipt of application is **13.12.2025/ 30 Days** from the publication in newspaper whichever is later.

CBC 06235/12/0003/2526

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

अति अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई– निविदा सूचना संख्या – **RDD/SD/CHAIBASA/80/2023-24 (6th Call)(DMFT Fund)**

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी:

क्र० सं०	प्रखण्ड	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	चक्रधरपुर	आसनतलिया पंचायत के मारतुल महतो के खेत से लाण्डुपोदा सिमाना तक पक्की नाली का निर्माण।	14422500.00	289000.00	10000.00	6 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 22.11.2025
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय – दिनांक 22.11.2025 से दिनांक 28.11.2025 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
4. ई–निविदा खोलने का स्थान–कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
5. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 29.11.2025 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे
6. ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
7. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8709623131 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)
8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
9. सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग झारखण्ड सरकार राँची के पत्रांक 02(नि०नि०–17)–251/23 ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग 3130(अनु०), राँची, दिनांक 09.10.2023 द्वारा दिये गये निदेश के अनुपालन में **सभी कागजात के साथ, निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।**
10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।
11. निविदा खोलने की तिथि से 5 दिनों के अन्दर निविदादाता द्वारा अपनी आपत्ति/दावा दर्ज कराये अन्यथा अवधि बीतने के पश्चात् कोई भी आपत्ति /दावा मान्य नहीं होगा।
12. पथ निर्माण विभाग, झारखण्ड के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत समुचित श्रेणी के संवेदक भाग ले सकेगें ।
13. बिना कारण बताये किसी भी समय निविदा को रद्द करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी को सुरक्षित रहेगा।
14. जिन संवेदक का कार्य लंबित है उनको कार्य आवंटन नही किया जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

ह०/–
कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

PR.NO.366423 West Singhbhum(25-26):D

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
Telecommunication Engineering Centre
K.L. Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001

No. 1-12/2024-Pers./TEC_eFile

Internship Notice

Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), Department of Telecommunications, New Delhi intends to engage 25 nos. of candidates (Student/scholar) under its 'TEC Internship Scheme' for which TEC invites the applications from eligible candidates/students from the recognized universities/colleges in India or abroad. The internship will be for a period of 06 months extendable to 12 months. For details and format of application, visit website **www.dot.gov.in** or **www.tec.gov.in.**

Duly filled application may be submitted online through given link on TEC website (**www.tec.gov.in**). Last date for submission of application is 14.12.2025/30 days from the publication in Newspapers whichever is later.

CBC 06235/12/0005/2526

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving

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TECH SUMMIT: Innovation Report says state capital ranks fifth among Top-50 AI cities globally

58% of AI startup funding in the last five years amounting to $872 million has been in Bengaluru

Bengaluru is among the Top 50 AI cities globally

2.5 mn software engineers work in Bengaluru

16 centres of excellence in AI, fintech, and quantum computing are in Bengaluru

50% of the country's AI/ML talent pool is based in Karnataka

1,600 active women-led startups founded in Bengaluru since 2010

$13.4 bn funding raised by women-led startups

$192 bn is the valuation of 53 unicorns which are based in Bengaluru

'Bengaluru now AI & quantum computing capital'

'India needs to scale in semiconductor production'

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

The country's Printed Circuit Board (PCB) production is so low that nearly 85% of demand is met only through imports. A PCB provides a mechanical base for holding and connecting electronic components. Speaking at a panel discussion on 'Electronics Passive Components Ecosystem and Bare PCB — A $60-Billion Opportunity by 2030' at the Bengaluru Tech Summit on Wednesday, panelists observed that India needs to scale semiconductor production, instead of heavy dependence on other countries, including China. Though it would not happen all of a sudden, the country should start scaling production, they further opined.

Wipro Electronics Materials Co-CEO Neeraj Pandita said less than 5% of its PCB is produced in India. The global PCB market is over $80 billion, and laminates (the foundational material for creating a PCB) market is about $20 billion, and this is expected to grow in coming years.

He said Wipro Electronics' Rs 500-crore PCB manufacturing unit is coming up in Doddaballapura, which will begin operations in nine months. He added that PCB production in the country remains very low and that 85% of the country's demand is met through imports. "However, there has been much encouraging progress in the last three months," he said.

TDK India President (Sales & Marketing) Gagan Bansal said the passive components market is big in India. "There is a need for a lot of deep tech technology that doesn't exist in India today," he said, adding that students should also focus on electronics and semiconductor career opportunities, instead of software alone.

In another session, INOX Air Products Head (Business Development and Strategy) Diganta Sarma pointed out that regulatory challenges, especially high electricity and demand charges make manufacturing more expensive in India, compared to China. He said the country has fewer semiconductor engineers and limited local IP.

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU , DHNS

Bengaluru is now turning into the Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum computing capital of India, with the city attracting 58% of AI startup funding in the last five years — amounting to $872 million — according to the Bengaluru Innovation Report 2025, released at the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) on Wednesday.

Bengaluru ranks No. 5 among the Top-50 AI cities globally, and 48% of the Global Capability Centers' (GCCs) talent pool in Bengaluru is engaged in high-end roles, such as engineering and R&D. The report also mentioned that global AI giants, such as OpenAI, Anthropic, and Graphcore, have set up bases in the city.

The city is home to over 2.5 million software engineers, constituting a substantial portion of the city's 13 million population, and about 1.5 lakh-2 lakh new employees are welcomed by Bengaluru over a period of time, and they comprise 40-45% of total tech hiring.

Interestingly, 50% of the country's AI/ML talent pool is based in Karnataka, and the state hosts 16 centres of excellence in AI, fintech, and quantum computing.

There are 1,600 active women-led startups that have been founded in Bengaluru since 2010, which have raised $13.4 billion so far, followed by Delhi-NCR with $10 billion total capital.

After Silicon Valley, New York, Beijing and London, Bengaluru is the fifth largest unicorn hub globally, with 53 unicorns valued at $192 billion. Bengaluru's unicorns contribute 42% of the country's total unicorn valuation.

The city also leads in nurturing 'soonicorns' — startups with unicorn potential — with 39 soonicorns already in Bengaluru.

In the report, IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge said the state accounts for nearly 40% of GCCs, and the goal is to double this presence by 2029.

The report also mentioned that between 2020 and 2023, the city recorded the highest number of patents in Computer Science (503), Electronics (473), and Communication (441) in India.

50 products by startups launched

The Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T launched 50 products/solutions by startups on Day 2 of BTS. These products/solutions are multi-disciplinary and sector-agnostic, ranging from IT/ITeS, AgriTech, MedTech, healthcare/wellness, CleanTech, AI, DeepTech, IoT, cybersecurity, SaaS, R&D, AVGC, and ESDM. These include electronic devices using AI and IoT, automotive manufacturing, avionics & defence, effluent air treatment, SaaS platforms, apps to prevent fraudulent transactions, digital theatre platform, and smart warehousing, among others.

IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge (third from left) and other dignitaries release the Bengaluru Innovation Report 2025 at Bengaluru Tech Summit 2025 on Wednesday.

'Big tech cos need to invest in building AI apps, solutions'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Big tech companies need to invest more in building AI applications and solutions, and if they don't, IT firms run a huge risk, said Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Speaking at a session at the Bengaluru Tech Summit on Wednesday, Singh said in the last 25-30 years, the prime advantage has been the ability to use the brain power of Indians to solve world problems that led to a boom in the IT industry. "Now, the ability of our developers is facing challenges from AI bots and machines. They are competing with human talent and if we don't turbocharge our engineers with those AI skills, we run a huge risk. It is in our interest that we invest much more in AI and that is the reason the government is providing funding support to build foundation models," he added.

He added that instead of chasing valuations and unicorn status, the focus must be on problems that we are trying to solve. "Only if you are able to create value, valuations will come. We will need to identify real problems and solve them with real talent, and it requires patient capital," he said.

He also highlighted that our key strength in tech space is talent, whether it is AI or digital. "When it comes to AI, expectations are that India should be leading, but our country is behind China and the US," he said, highlighting IndiaAI Mission's seven pillars that include future skills, dataset platform, and compute capacity.

In another discussion on 'Foundation Models for India', panelists delved into the possibilities of domain-specific models, responsible AI development, and building scalable systems that can power real-world applications across the country.

In the session 'Human Edge in The AI Age', author and tech entrepreneur Nitin Seth said AI is increasingly able to mimic human emotions in a more ideal and structured way.

GBA Chief Commisioner Maheshwar Rao interacts with Venk Krishnan at Bengaluru Tech Summit 2025 on Wednesday.

Making B'luru walkable the top priority, says GBA chief

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Making Bengaluru City walkable is currently the top priority of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), said Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao on Wednesday.

Interacting with NuVentures CEO and Founder Venk Krishnan on 'Building Greater Bengaluru: Governance, Innovation & Urban', at the Bengaluru Tech Summit, Rao said attention is being paid to fixing, cleaning and improving footpaths to make walking the last-mile connectivity, when it is possible.

Referring to the traffic situation of the city, Rao said there are 1.2 crore vehicles which are registered here, and new vehicles are added everyday. "Given the number of vehicles, we lack the same quantity of road length to manage that kind of traffic. While there are numerous short-term options, the solution is increasing the dependence on public transport," he stressed.

More than four million people will use BMTC buses, and lakhs of people will ride the Metro everyday, by next year. Hopefully, Metro connectivity will be improved, which can increase the dependency on public transportation, said Rao.

"The completion of the Metro line between KR Puram and Silk Board will bring down traffic congestion in that area significantly. The Yellow Line brought down the traffic by at least 20-25%," he informed.

Rao was also asked about the civic grievances reported by citizens not being addressed by the corporation. Many suggested a corporate-style software to make resolving grievances easier.

"A lot of improvements have been made in the last few weeks. Many people told me that the quality and feel of the city has improved. We will continue to work towards that," he replied, acknowledging the problems of Hebbal and Gorguntepalya junctions.

Plan for first Quantum City unveiled

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

The plan for India's first Quantum City or Q-city was unveiled at the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2025 by Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology NS Boseraju on Wednesday. The Q-city is proposed to be established over 6 acres in Hesarghatta.

Under the Karnataka Quantum Mission, the government has allocated an investment of Rs 1,000 crore.

The Q-city will house advanced research laboratories, a quantum hardware park, cryogenic testing facilities, quantum cloud clusters, and a deep tech startup zone. It will also host end-to-end services from research, to incubation, to commercialisation for quantum technologies.

"Quantum City will open a new chapter in India's technological future. Karnataka is ready to lead the world in quantum innovation and exports," Boseraju said, after unveiling the plan

He also highlighted the recent approval of Rs 1,136 crore by the government to establish the Quantum Supremacy Centre in Bengaluru.

Regarding his recent visit to Switzerland, the minister said several international organisations had expressed interest in collaborating on the Quantum City initiative. "Work is already underway to establish the Swiss and Karnataka Quantum Collaboration Centre," he shared.

A roundtable discussion focusing on private-sector partnerships, international collaborations for Quantum City and capacity-building was held with ministers, experts, scientists, and other stakeholders.

A video grab shows the plan for Q-city.

Future of space

Speaking about the challenges, developments, and the way forward at the Indian Space and Research Organisation (ISRO), its Chairman, Dr V Narayanan, said, "Two new ISRO launchpads are on the cards — in Sriharikota and Kulasekarapattinam."

LVM3-M6 and Bluebird Block-2 Mission are the upcoming commercial mission projects of ISRO, he informed, adding that fiber optic pressure, temperature, and level sensors and HMC and Nano technology-based sensors are the major new developments in progress.

Highlighting ISRO's achievements so far, Narayanan said, "In the last decade, ISRO has launched 61 launch missions, 63 Indian satellites, and 398 foreign satellites launched by India, and in total, 461 satellites have been launched."

Banks, NBFCs seek tax relief on deposits in Budget

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Banks and NBFCs on Wednesday requested the Centre to lower tax on interest earned on fixed deposits to help boost low-cost deposit mobilisation, as an increasingly higher number of people are opting for direct investments in equities.

Financial sector representatives made this demand during a pre-Budget consultation meeting with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. During the meeting, NBFCs sought government support in raising money for refinance. They suggested setting up a dedicated refinance window in line with the National Housing Bank, which monitors the liquidity position of housing finance companies in the country. The National Housing Bank also provides financial support to eligible institutions.

According to sources, NBFC representatives argued that a dedicated refinance window would ensure uninterrupted credit flow to underserved segments, especially small businesses. By ensuring stable and affordable funds to NBFCs, the dedicated finance window would lead to significant drop in lending cost.

Amid growing trend of direct investments in equity markets, financial institutions have requested the Centre to take steps to make bank deposits more attractive by lowering tax on interest earned.

ICICI Bank Executive Director Sandeep Batra, L&T Finance Managing Director Sudipta Roy, Bajaj Finance Deputy CEO Manish Jain, IIFCL Managing Director Palash Srivastav, HDFC Life Insurance Company Managing Director Vibha Padalkar and senior executives of other banking, finance and insurance companies attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, the FM also met stakeholders from the IT sector. Infosys Global Tax Head Sunil Kumar Dhareshwar, Google India Country Manager Preeti Lobana, Cognizant Technology Solutions India Chairman Rajesh Varrier, IBM India CFO Tejaswini Rajwade, and HCL Tech COO Rahul Singh, were among participants at the IT sector stakeholder consultation.

BANGALORE CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Chamarajpet Division, 2nd Main, T.R. Mill Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018

No. EE/CMP/TEND/12/2025-26 **Date: 19/11/2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK KPPP Only) (Two Cover System)

1. The Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) invites Request for Proposal from interested Firms Organization those who have done similar type of work for Preparation of Detailed Project Report, Consultant for Supervision, Project Management and Quality control for the project for the below works invited through KPPP system by the Executive Engineer, Chamarajpet Division, Zone-2, BCCC invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in Bengaluru Central City Corporation/KPWD/ Electrical/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any state Govt. Organization for the construction of works detailed in the Table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for the works given in the table through KPPP portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only). The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in clause-3 of the instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract as per standard RFP Document and Tender Document.
2. Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPPP portal of The Government of Karnataka from **dt: 24/11/2025.**
3. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sl.No	Name of the Work / DPR COST in Rs/EMD amount in Rs.
1.	Consultancy services for preparation of DPR for the work of Renovation and Development works to Maternity Hospital at Rayapuram in Ward No. 154 (137) (Est. Cost. Rs.1000.00 Lakhs) DPR COST **Rs. 10.00 Lakhs, EMD Rs. 25,000/-**

Calendar of events:
1. Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **16.00 hours on dt: 02/12/2025** and the opening of tenders will be as per the KPPP portal guidelines. **2.** Date of Pre bid meeting at the office Executive Engineer (Chamarajpet Division) on **28-11-2025- at 11.00 hrs** **3.** Technical Bids will be opened on the website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in in the office of the Executive Engineer (Chamarajpet Division) on dt: **03-12-2025 at 11:00 hrs** or next working day.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Chamarajpet-Division, BCCC

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION KALABURAGI

No:HFW/EE/DIVN/KLB/AE-2/Tender/2025-26/1132 Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, H & FWD Engineering Division Kalaburagi invites tenders online in KPP portal for the following works under reserved Category and General.

Sl. No	Description of work	Amount put to Tender (Rs. In lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs)	Category	Period of completion including Monsoon season
1	Construction of Ayushman Arogya Mandir at Poojarahalli in Kudligi Taluk in Vijayanagara District **(Indent No, 1762)**	**54.55**	54600.00	Cat II (A)	6 months
2	Construction of Ayushman Arogya Mandir at Jarmali in Kudligii Taluk in Vijayanagara District **(Indent No, 1763)**	**54.55**	109200.00	Gen	6 months
3	Construction of Ayushman Arogya Mandir at Tayakanahalli in Kudligi Taluk in Vijayanagara District **(Indent No, 1764)**	**54.55**	109200.00	Gen	6 months
4	Construction of Ayushman Arogya Mandir at Hyarada in Hadagali Taluk in Vijayanagara District **(Indent No, 1765)**	**54.55**	109200.00	Gen	6 months
5	Construction of Ayushman Arogya Mandir at Kuntoji in Gangavathi taluk in Koppal district **(Indent No, 1808)**	**54.55**	55000.00	SC	6 Months

Calendar of Events: 1. Last date & time for receipt of Tender Online in the e-procurement portal. : **10-12-2025 up to 16:00 hours**, 2. Last date & time for opening of technical bids : **11-12-2025 at 16:30 hours**
Note: 1) All the Rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of Entire tender process, rejection of Bids/individual Bid etc,, without assigning any reason. 2) Please note henceforth any changes in the schedule will not be published through newspapers& further changes will be updated only in kppp portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
H & FWD Engineering Division, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/744/KSMC&A/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Infrastructure Development, Ports & Inland Water Transport Department)
Karnataka Maritime Board
Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Karnataka Maritime Board, Baithkol, Karwar-581302

No.PIWT-72/WKS-II/2021 Dated: 17.11.2025

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Rates Quotations in e-procurement are invited by the undersigned from the reputed, bonafide, resourceful & experienced firms/ contractors who are having similar nature of work experience for the details mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Indent No.	Name of Work	Description Of the Work	Qty.	Unit	Rate Excluding GST	
						Figures	words
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
1	IDD/2025-26/ PREQUAL_ TENDER_ NUMBER_37	Design, construction, supply and commissioning of Steel LCT / Vessel for Kankanawadi - Nadugudde in Jamkhandi Taluk of Bagalkot Circle and District. **(File No: KMB-72/WKS-II/2021)**	Please refer KPP Portal for detail specifications				
2	IDD/2025-26/ PREQUAL_ TENDER_ NUMBER_38	Providing and Supplying of motor Boat for Nadi Ingalgaon to Hulagbal ferry service and surrounding places in Athani Taluka of Belagavi District **(File No: KMB-82/WKS-II/2021)**	Please refer KPP Portal for detail specifications				
3	IDD/2025-26/ PREQUAL_ TENDER_ NUMBER_39	Providing and Supplying of Aluminium Boat for Nandgaon ferry service in Rabakavi Banahatti Taluka of Bagalkot District **(File No: KMB-13/WKS-II/2024-25)**	Please refer KPP Portal for detail specifications				

Submit your completed finished rates, excluding of GST and inclusive of all applicable taxes, prevailing at the time of your quotation to the undersigned before **28.11.2025**. This quotation rates are purely **for preparation of estimates /budgetary purpose only.**
The specification of required LCT / Vessel/Boat is provided in **Appendixes.** Please go through the same before submitting your quotation. (Please refer KPP Portal)
For any further information please contact the following address.
(1) E-mail: piwtdev.wks@gmail.com (2) Phone No. 08382 -221494

Sd/-, Port Engineer
Karnataka Maritime Board, Karwar

DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/725/25-26 dt.18.11.2025

IN BRIEF

Gandhigram post big win

▸ Gandhigram Hockey Club thrashed Yes for Hockey B 16-0 in a goalfest during the KSHA C Division Hockey League Championship on Wednesday, reports DHNS.

Results: Gandhigram Hockey Club: 16 (Prakash Joshwa 1st, 23rd; Deva Nixen 4th, 12th; Aadhitya S 13th, 18th; Harivarshan M 11th; Agaramuthu N 26th, 30th; Mahalingam S 31st, 41st, 44th, 45th; Santhosh K 34th, 43rd; Nishanth S 36th) bt Yes for Hockey B: 0; Germanite Hockey Academy: 5 (Ganesh 11th, Tharan G 28th, 32nd, Aaron 41st, Royden 48th) bt Yes for Hockey C: 0.

K'taka thrash C'garh 4-0

▸ Karnataka's Divya Sriram netted a brace to power her team to a 4-0 win over Chhattisgarh at the Dr Talimeren Ao Junior Girls National Football Championship in Ananthpur on Wenesday, reports DHNS.

Results: Karnataka: 4 (H Yashica 13th, Catherine Thanga 18th, Divya Sriram 32nd, 38th) bt Chhattisgarh: 0.

NZ beat WI to clinch series

▸ Captain Mitchell Santner delivered with the bat as New Zealand beat the West Indies by five wickets in the second ODI on Wednesday to win the series 2-0 with a match to spare, reports AFP from Napier.

Brief scores: West Indies: 247/9 in 34 overs (Shai Hope 109; Kyle Jamieson 3-44, Nathan Smith 4-42) lt to New Zealand: 248/5 in 33.3 overs (Devon Conway 90, Rachin Ravindra 56, Tom Latham 39, Mitchell Santner 34). **Result:** NZ won by 5 wickets via DLS method. **PoM:** Shai Hope. **3-match ODI series:** NZ lead 2-0. **Next match:** Hamilton (Nov 22).

Mitchell ends Rohit's reign

▸ India's Rohit Sharma dropped down to second place after a brief reign at the top with New Zealander Daryl Mitchell dislodging him in the ICC ODI batters' rankings, reports PTI from Dubai.

India to face USA in U-19 WC opener

India will take on the USA in the Men's U-19 World Cup opener with the tournament to be staged in Zimbabwe and Namibia from January 15 to February 6.

The competition will feature 16 teams divided into groups of four in the first stage, with a total of 41 matches to be played over 23 days.

India are placed in Group A alongside the USA, Bangladesh and New Zealand. The Group B will have Zimbabwe, Pakistan, England and Scotland, whereas Group C will have defending champions Australia, Ireland, Japan and Sri Lanka. The fourth and final Group D consists of Tanzania, the West Indies, Afghanistan and South Africa.

India will play their opener against the USA on January 15.

Afghanistan crush India B

BENGALURU, DHNS: India B were handed a 71-run thrashing by Afghanistan in the U-19 Tri-Series at the BCCI Centre of Excellence Ground here on Wednesday.

India B were all out for a mere 97 runs in 29.3 overs while chasing a paltry total of 169 as Afghan new-ball bowler Abdul Aziz took a 6/38, leaving opener Yuvraj Gohil stranded at the other end at 60 not out.

Brief scores: Afghanistan: 168 all out in 45.2 overs (Faisal Khan Shinozada 58, Azizullah Miakhil 42; Ishan Sood 2-24, Naman Pushpak 4-45) bt India B: 97 all out in 29.3 overs (Yuvraj Gohil 60 n.o.; Abdul Aziz 6-38, Salam Khan 2-18, Wahidullah Zadran 2-12).

◆ ON TV ◆

BADMINTON

Australian Open: Pre-quarterfinals (**6:30 am**). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

With an organised game, the southpaw can be a good bet at No. 3 going forward

BAT WASHINGTON higher up consistently

WASHINGTON'S CAREER PROGRESS

Mat	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave
Overall									
16	821	101*	43.21	1	5	35	7/59	11/115	30.34
Jan '21-Mar '22									
4	265	96*	66.25	0	3	6	3/89	4/169	49.83
Since Oct '24									
12	556	101*	37.06	1	2	29	7/59	11/115	26.31

MADHU JAWALI
GUWAHATI, DHNS

In an era where label-affixing is the in-thing, Washington Sundar looms as an outlier, defying every effort to pigeonhole him. Is he an off-spinner who can bat competently anywhere in a Test line-up? Is he a left-handed batter who can send down more than a few overs of high-class, underrated off-spin? Is he an all-rounder in the making, or is he already one?

Since his dramatic Test debut under interesting circumstances in Brisbane nearly five years back, Washington has seen and done it all. Four wickets and 84 runs (including 62 under immense pressure in the first innings) played a vital role in India's epochal victory at the Gabba in January 2021, the Tamil Nadu lad only getting a look-in because the team struggled to put out a fit XI on the park. Over the next two months, he made an unbeaten 85 and an unconquered 96, batting at No. 7 and No. 8 respectively, at home against England but for some strange reason not exclusive to Indian cricket, was deemed superfluous for the five-day game for the next three and a half years.

Essentially considered a white-ball specialist until October last year, Washington belatedly earned a top-three position for his state against Delhi, responding with a splendid 152 that earned him a recall for the second Test against New Zealand in Pune. Curiously, he was picked as an off-spinner, and while he justified that selection by comprehensively out-bowling the vastly more pedigreed R Ashwin on his way to 11 wickets for the match, he held his own batting at No. 9 and No. 6 even as the rest crumbled.

Since his dramatic Test debut in Brisbane nearly five years ago, 26-year-old Washington Sundar has matured into an all-purpose player in the Indian team. AFP

Washington immediately supplanted Ashwin as the first-choice Test off-spinner, perhaps inadvertently hastening the latter's international retirement. Having played four Tests in his first two and half months in his first stint as a Test player, he has figured in 12 of India's 15 outings since his comeback last October, more than reiterating his value.

In this period, Washington has taken a five-for in an innings and a ten-wicket match haul, produced a stonewalling, match-saving unbeaten maiden century at Old Trafford, smashed an undervalued 46-ball 53 in the second innings at the Oval while adding 39 for the last wicket with Prasidh Krishna (0*) – India's margin of victory was seven runs – and worked his way up to No. 3 for the Kolkata Test against South Africa. It's been a remarkable progression for the 26-year-old, who started out as a top-order bat in his formative years until Virat Kohli at Royal Challengers Bangalore (as it was then) began to use him as a specialist Power Play off-spinner.

What has stood out over the last few years is Washington's poise and composure, and not only with the bat. It's only in the last year or so that he has started to believe in himself as a Test bowler, one suspects. He isn't a big turner of the ball but does enough on helpful tracks to keep the batters guessing. And when there isn't much assistance, he uses his beautiful drift away from the right-handers as a lethal weapon, testing the outside edge and bringing the wicket-keeper and slip into play.

It's as a batter, though, that Washington has forced the connoisseurs to sit up and take notice. To those who have followed his cricket closely over the last decade and more, his success as a Test batter has come as no surprise because they knew what he was made of. For the rest to whom Washington was a bit of an unknown commodity, his maturity, presence, technical expertise and unflagging concentration have been an eye-opener.

Using both his left-handedness and height to his advantage, Washington has shown dexterity against the turning ball and command over the short stuff from the quicker bowlers.

India have, almost certainly by accident, unearthed a gem at No. 3, a slot occupied by seven individuals in the 18 Tests since Gautam Gambhir took over as head coach. No one else apart from Shubman Gill, who has dropped down to No. 4 since his elevation as captain, has been more impressive at that pivotal position than the lanky left-hander from Chennai.

Logic dictates that Washington occupies that slot for the foreseeable future, starting with the second Test here from Saturday.

Shubman Gill. PTI

Gill not exactly fit but desperate to play

GUWAHATI, PTI: Shubman Gill has travelled to Guwahati with the rest of the India squad for the second Test against South Africa but the neck injury that is on the mend is unlikely to fully heal before the game begins here on Saturday.

However, it is understood that the skipper will try his best to prove his fitness during training sessions on Thursday and Friday. The squad has landed in the city.

If sources in the Indian team are to be believed, the 26-year-old Gill is far from being 100 per cent fit, with the pain in the nape of his neck still lingering although its intensity has reduced considerably.

Hardik, Bumrah likely to skip SA ODIs

GUWAHATI, PTI: With next year's T20 World Cup taking precedence, all-rounder Hardik Pandya, currently recuperating from a quadriceps injury, is unlikely to feature in the upcoming ODI series against South Africa starting November 30, and is expected to focus solely on the shortest format for now.

In keeping with workload management for frontline pacers, spearhead Jasprit Bumrah is also likely to be rested from the three-match ODI series, which carries little significance in the build-up to the T20 showpiece.

It is understood that Hardik will first prove his match fitness for Baroda in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, and the Mumbai Indians skipper would then play the T20I series against South Africa and New Zealand.

Aneeshwar stars for K'taka

BENGALURU, DHNS: Skipper Aneeshwar Gautam on Wednesday scored a brilliant hundred to set up Karnataka's four-wicket win over Hyderabad in the Men's U-23 State A Trophy Elite in Jaipur.

Hyderabad asked Karnataka to bowl first at the Anantam Ground. Manvanth Kumar (4/59), Samit Dravid (2/29) and Hardik Raj (2/31) shared eight wickets between them to skittle their opponents to 226 all out in 47.3 overs.

Chasing 227 for victory, Aneeshwar laced his 117-ball ton with 12 fours and a six, while Sanjay Ashwin scored a 70-ball 51 to help Karnataka cross the line in 42.5 overs.

Brief scores: Hyderabad: 226 all out in 47.3 overs (Aman Rao 39, Vignesh Reddy 53, Nitin Sai Yadav 41; Manvanth Kumar 4-59, Samit Dravid 2-29, Hardik Raj 2-31) lt to Karnataka: 227/6 in 42.5 overs (Sanjay Ashwin 51, Aneeshwar Gautam 100, Karthikeya KP 42; Dinesh Rathod 2-31, Prithvi 2-46).

Pretorius ton propels Proteas

South Africa A post consolation win to avoid sweep

RAJKOT, PTI

Lhuan-dre Pretorius

Teen batting sensation Lhuan-dre Pretorius stole the show with a scintillating hundred as South Africa A came up with an all-round performance to earn a consolatory 73-run win over India A in the third unofficial ODI here on Wednesday.

The big victory helped the visitors avoid a series whitewash after India won the first two matches.

Besides Pretorius (123 off 98 balls), his opening partner Rivaldo Moonsamy also struck a fine century (107 off 130 balls) while sharing 241 runs to help South Africa post a formidable 325 for six in the allotted 50 overs.

In reply, India A were all out for 252 in 49.1 overs.

India A never got a partnership going and barring Ayush Badoni's run-a-ball 66 and Ishan Kishan's 67-ball 53, none of the home team batters could make a mark in the stiff chase of 326.

The duo of Badoni and Kishan joined forces with India A in a spot of bother at 82 for four in 17 overs. But after having added 88 runs, Kishan, seeking to make a case for a return to India's white-ball teams, was sent back by Nqabayomzi Peter (4/48), who also dismissed Badoni to signal the end of India A's resistance.

India A lost three wickets in quick succession with Badoni and Rana falling to Peter on consecutive deliveries.

Earlier, 19-year-old Pretorius and Moonsamy powered the visitors after India A captain Tilak Varma asked them to bat.

Brief scores: South Africa A: 325/6 in 50 overs (Lhuan-dre Pretorius 123, Rivaldo Moonsamy 107, Delano Potgieter 30 n.o.; Khaleel Ahmed 2-82, Prasidh Krishna 2-52, Harshit Rana 2-47) bt India A: 252 all out in 49.1 overs (Ruturaj Gaikwad 25, Ayush Badoni 66, Ishan Kishan 53; Tshepo Moreki 3-58, Nqabayomzi Peter 4-48). **Result:** SA A won by 73 runs. **PoM:** Lhuan-dre Pretorius. **3-match ODI series:** Ind A won 2-1. **PoS:** Ruturaj Gaikwad.

Nikhat ends medal wait

GREATER NOIDA, PTI: Two-time World Champion Nikhat Zareen battled through a scrappy bout to storm into the gold medal round, joining Jaismine Lamboria and four other home boxers who also cruised to the finals on day four of the World Boxing Cup Finals here on Wednesday.

Jadumani Singh Mandengbam (50kg), Pawan Bartwal (55kg), Sachin Siwach (60kg) and Hitesh Gulia (70kg) also entered the finals, ensuring India will have a whopping 15 boxers vying for gold on Thursday.

Nikhat, who returned from over a year-long hiatus forced by a shoulder injury at the World Championships in September earlier this year, continued to show signs of rust as she was made to work hard for her unanimous decision win by Uzbek Ganieva Gulsevar in a messy 51kg semifinal.

Nikhat Zareen

Saurashtra's Parth leaves Goa in a tailspin

BENGALURU, DHNS: Left-arm spinner Parth Bhut picked 9/127, including a seven-for in the second innings to help Saurashtra thrash Goa by an innings and 47 runs in a Ranji Trophy Group B match on Wednesday.

Bhut picked up seven for 56 in the second innings to single-handedly break Goa's batting backbone and bowl them out for 180 in 54.5 overs.

MP deny Kerala a win

A fighting effort from Madhya Pradesh's lower order denied Kerala an outright win, with the match ending in a draw in Indore.

Resuming at 218 for 3, Sachin Baby (122 off 217 balls) and Baba Aparajith (105 retired hurt off 149 balls) scored fine centuries as Kerala declared their second innings on 314 for 5, setting a target of 404 runs for MP.

In reply, Kerala reduced the hosts to 126 for 8 and were in contention for an outright win.

But the duo of Aryan Pandey (23 not out) and Kumar Kartikeya (16 not out) showcased resistance to earn a hard-fought draw for MP.

Karnataka triumph

In the group's other big match, former champions Karnataka had completed an innings and 185-run win over Chandigarh in Hubballi on Tuesday.

Brief scores: At Rajkot: Saurashtra 587/7 decl bt Goa: 358 all out & (O/n: 77/2) 180 all out in 54.5 overs (Manthan Khutkar 36, Abhinav Tejrana 34, Snehal Kauthankar 25; Jaydev Unadkat 2-29, Parth Bhut 7-56). **Result:** Saurashtra won by an innings and 47 runs. **Saurashtra:** 7 points; **Goa:** 0. **At Indore:** Kerala 281 all out and (O/n: 226/3) 314/5 in 62 overs (Sachin Baby 122, Baba Aparajith 105 retired hurt; Saransh Jain 3-61) vs Madhya Pradesh 192 all out & 167/8 in 69 overs (Saransh Jain 31; Sreehari Nair 4-51). **Result:** Match drawn; **Kerala:** 3 points; **Madhya Pradesh:** 1 point.

Ranji points table

Elite Group B	M	W	L	D	Points
Karnataka	5	2	0	3	21
Maharashtra	5	2	0	3	18
Madhya Pradesh	5	1	0	4	16
Saurashtra	5	1	0	4	13
Goa	5	1	2	2	11
Punjab	5	1	1	3	11
Kerala	5	0	1	4	8
Chandigarh	5	0	4	1	1

Karnataka pip Uttarakhand in Cooch Behar Trophy

BENGALURU, DHNS: Second innings contributions from Nitish Arya L and Vaibhav Sharma helped Karnataka to a three-wicket win over Uttarakhand on the fourth day of their BCCI-Cooch Behar Trophy game at Alur Grounds (1) here on Wednesday.

Karnataka, chasing 159 for the win and resuming from an overnight score of 44 for one in seven overs, survived a scare losing seven wickets but Nitish (33) and Vaibhav (28) held fort to take them over the finish line in 45.2 overs. For Uttarakhand, it was Priyanshu Singh (3/52), who was the pick of the bowlers.

Earlier in the game, Akshath Prabhakar (5/20) picked up five wickets to bundle out Uttarakhand for 191 runs in their second essay.

Brief scores: Uttarakhand: 202 all out & 191 all out in 77.1 overs lt to Karnataka: 235 all out & 162/7 in 45.2 overs (Nitish Arya L 33, Vaibhav Sharma 28; Priyanshu Singh 3-52, Akash Kumar 2-32).

Sanjay to lead India with a blend of experience & youth

Defender Sanjay will captain India at the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Ipoh, Malaysia. HI MEDIA

HITA PRAKASH
BENGALURU, DHNS

'Strong defence for a stronger attack' has been one of the main mantras of Craig Fulton, the head coach of the Indian men's hockey team. While this has enabled the squad to work as a unit, the South African's other ideology of never taking any opponent for granted, at any stage, is developing the national side into a formidable force.

The coach's belief being inculcated in the thinking of every player is evident when Sanjay -- the Indian captain for the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup starting November 23 in Ipoh, Malaysia -- is questioned about who their toughest opponent at the event could be.

"All the teams!," quips Sanjay, a response as swift as his defending skills.

"All of them are strong and each team have their own pattern of playing. If Belgium resort to zone play, Korea (play) man-to-man while New Zealand do a bit of both. So we have to get on to the field every day with a new plan and execute it well. We cannot take any team lightly.

"If you take any team for granted in international hockey, the chances of losing will increase. But when we consider the opponents as strong then we will enter (the field) with full energy to give it our all," explains the 24-year-old.

This quality of analysing things at a deeper level while staying logical is perhaps the reason for the think-tank of Indian hockey to elevate Sanjay, with 70 caps and five goals for senior men's side so far, to the skipper's role for the 31st edition of the invitational event that will have Belgium, Canada, Korea, New Zealand and hosts Malaysia competing where the top two teams from the round-robin format will qualify for the final on November 30.

Keeping in mind the gruelling year ahead, many seniors are rested with the team comprising second-rung players along with a few youngsters. Among those missing is India's regular leader Harmanpreet Singh.

"I have played under Harman *paaji* since I made my senior India debut (2023). He always motivates the players. For example, even if we are behind at half-time, he tells 'let the mistakes happen no problem, take risks, play with confidence, communicate with each other and play...'

"Even during the meetings he keeps instilling leadership qualities in all of us. 'Think like a leader, never hesitate to come forward and speak up and share your thoughts with every member so it benefits the team'. These are some of the qualities I like and admire about him and I will replicate it as a captain," offers Sanjay.

With first choice goalkeepers Krishan Pathak and Suraj Karkera rested, Pawan and Mohith Honnenahalli Shashikumar will take guard. Similarly Aditya Arjun Lalage (forward), Moirangthem Singh (midfield) and Poovanna Chandura Boby (defender) are some of the other upcoming players included in the squad.

"Even in the Olympics 2024, there were quite a few juniors and we produced results," points out Sanjay, who was part of the bronze-medal winning team at the Paris Games last year.

"This team has a good blend of experience and the fitness of young players and we will work together to win the trophy. This is an opportunity to prove that Indian hockey is on its way to newer heights."

Select Cricketers navigate Subbu's spell for win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Subbu Yadav Prasad saw his 7-23 spell go in vain as his side Merchant Cricket Club lost to Select Cricketers by a mere wicket in a low-scoring thriller of the KSCA Group I-IV Division League cum knockout tournament for Metro Shield here.

LOCAL CRICKET

Brief scores: Merchant CC (1): 193 all out in 44.5 overs (Venky 83 n.o., Subbu Yadav Prasad S 44; Jude Nathenil 4-43, Jinesh VR 2-45, Arpith Rajeev Naganand 2-21) lt to Select Cricketers: 194/9 in 46.5 overs (Arpith Rajeev Naganand 78, Jimson Jerome 32; Subbu Yadav Prasad S 7-23).
Friends Cricket Team: 144 all out in 36.3 overs (Vijaya Ramaraju G 38, Vijaykumar Patil 33; Dominic Fernandes 2-16, Shameek Kolambkar 3-37, Tanu B 2-32) lt to Sapphire CC: 146/5 in 25 overs (Nitin Bhille 43 n.o., Thrivarna Sagar 37 n.o.; Yaseer Nihal 4-40).
Zodiac CC: 194 all out in 47.5 overs (Amar SV 52, Abhishek Saini 41; Sumukh Prabhu 2-40, Nirmal Tejaswi S 3-25, Purushotham Raghu 2-24, Ishan Chanana 3-31) bt Elite Blues CC: 167 all out in 42.3 overs (Gagandeep HB 41; Suresh Krishnan 5-44, Mohan Krishna 2-9).
YFA SC: 314/8 in 50 overs (Adarsh V Hiremath 74, Hardik Raghav 69, Gangaram 56, Ramesh S 31 n.o.; Sanket Shetty 2-39) bt Young Pioneer CC: 266 all out in 45.3 overs (Ayush M Patil 150, Raghav M 35; Priyanshu Tripathi 3-41, Hardik Raghav 3-35).
Crescent CC (1): 233 all out in 48.2 overs (Kashish CH 76, Chethan KL 36; Avaneesh Poonacha 4-35, Rajeev Bhaskar 3-48, Ram N Chauhan 2-43) bt Dolphin Cricketers: 157 all out in 39.4 overs (Ayaan Sharmod Kumar 28 n.o.; Niteesh Kumar GV 3-25, Abdul Bari 3-25, Pranav R Belur 2-20).
Merchants CC (2): 291/7 in 50 overs (Bharath Kalachar 61, Gowtham NJ 56, Shashank SJ 61 n.o., Arun M 38 n.o.; Zahoor Faroqui 2-33, R Praveen Kumar 3-62) bt Southern Cricketers: 204 all out in 32.2 overs (Duke Kaveri BP 39, Manjunath T 48, Vikram Venkatesh 78; Gowtham NJ 4-36, Sachin Handi 4-60).
Victory CC: 278/6 in 50 overs (Prithvi Raj MR 69, Abhiraj S 111, Rahul S 30 n.o.; Sanju BT 2-37) beat Jaidur Cricketers: 255 all out in 48.3 overs (Chiranjivi Nagaraja Reddy 72, Kishore 58; Vishwesh S Alagundagi 2-43, Hemanth M 4-31).
City Cricketers (1): 308/8 in 50 overs (Adyant E 110, Gajendra Bhandari 64; Kushmith DB 3-60, Sha M Uddin 2-35) bt Silky Town CC, Channapatna: 276/9 in 50 overs (Chandrashekar Murthy KS 61, Sha Mudassir Uddin 56, Somashekara Murthy KS 41, Mohammed Kashif A 67; Chethan CV 2-31, Prajwal 3-41).
Magadi CC, Magadi: 193 all out in 41.1 overs (Sarafraj M Ilabad 44, Chetan J 53; Kishor B 2-38, Mayur Poojary 5-34) lt to Jeevanbhimanagar CC: 196/7 in 35.5 overs (Aarav Bajaj 53, Preetham P 40, Kayan Abbas 51; Srihari GN 2-55).
Sirupark SC: 256 all out in 47.5 overs (Mayur B 48, Venukumar R 46, Niranjan N 32, Sanjay Gorur 67 n.o.; Lakshmi Kanth 2-54, Kishore S 3-38, Akhil Rao 2-13) lt to Bangalore Star CA: 259/9 in 47.1 overs (Vijay Kumar K 58, Sureen MU 107, Akhil Rao 43; Md S Sharief 2-44, Sanjay Gorur 4-47, Niranjan N 2-38).

Corrigendum

BENGALURU, DHNS: In the obituary, 'Athlete who excelled on track and beyond', published on November 19, 2025, father's name of Natasha Sagar should have read Dr Hemachandra Sagar and not as mentioned in these columns. The error is regretted.

James headlines Kodagu win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Tagru James scored a brace, while BS Mrinal Mutanna and Muhammed Unais M added one goal apiece as Kodagu FC beat Bharath Bengaluru FC 4-1 in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Wednesday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

In the day's other matches, South United FC registered a 4-0 win over MEG & Centre FC, while Sporting Club Bengaluru beat MFAR students Union FC 3-1.

Results: Kodagu FC: 4 (Tagru James 40th, 71st, BS Mrinal Mutanna 55th, Muhammed Unais M 63rd) bt Bharath Bengaluru FC: 1 (Michi Mudo 81st); South United: 4 (Shougouohu 36th, Rahul Pandiyan 44th, Mustafa Shaikh 50th, Cris NowAng Sherpa 78th) bt MEG & Centre FC: 0; Sporting Club Bengaluru: 3 (Shaurya Rastogi 49th, 69th, Abdul Harsheek MA 90th+5) bt MFAR students Union FC: 1 (Ameen Khazeer 60th).

Kodagu FC's Surya Ragish heads the ball during their game against BBFC at BFS on Wednesday.
DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

FOOTBALL FIFA WC QUALIFIERS

Scotland end 27-year long wait

Spain, Switzerland and Austria also book ticket to the Americas

PARIS, AGENCIES

Injury-time wonder-goals by Kieran Tierney and Kenny McLean handed Scotland a stunning 4-2 win over Denmark on Tuesday to qualify them for the 2026 World Cup, while Spain also booked their ticket with a 2-2 draw against Turkey.

Belgium thumped Liechtenstein 7-0 to reach next year's tournament as Switzerland and Austria ground out draws to secure their places in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Scotland's late show in Glasgow means Steve Clarke's side have qualified for the global footballing showpiece for the first time since 1998.

Level at 2-2 as the clock ticked past 90, Denmark were set to advance to the World Cup as Group C winners until Tierney curled in an exquisite finish from distance three minutes into injury time.

McLean then put the match beyond doubt as he lifted the ball over Danish goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel, who was well off his line, from the halfway line on 98 minutes.

Kieran Tierney celebrates after scoring Scotland's third goal during the FIFA World Cup qualifier against Denmark. AFP

QUALIFIED COUNTRIES

- Hosts: Canada, Mexico, United States.
- Europe: Croatia, England, France, Norway, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Scotland.
- South America: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay.
- Asia: Australia, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Uzbekistan.
- Africa: Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia.
- CONCACAF: Curacao, Haiti, Panama.
- Oceania: New Zealand.

Curacao qualify

The tiny Caribbean nation of Curacao became the smallest country ever to qualify for the World Cup on Tuesday as Haiti booked their return to the tournament for the first time in 52 years along with Panama.

Iraq's hopes alive

Iraq kept its World Cup hopes alive by beating the United Arab Emirates 3-2 on aggregate after a dramatic stoppage-time penalty in qualifying.

Amir Al-Ammari's penalty in the 17th minute of added time sealed the 2-1 victory.

Results: Europe : Scotland: 4 (McTominay 3rd, Shankland 78th, Tierney 90th+3, McLean 90th+8) bt Denmark: 2 (Hojlund 57th pen, Dorgu 82nd); Sweden: 1 (Lundgren 87th) drew with Slovenia: 1 (Elsnik 64th); Kosovo: 1 (Muslija 74th) drew with Switzerland: 1 (Vargas 47th); Spain: 2 (Olmo 4th, Oyarzabal 62nd) bt Turkiye: 2 (Gul 42nd, Ozcan 54th); Belgium: 7 (Vanaken 3rd, Doku 34th, 41st, Mechele 52nd, Saelemaekers 55th, De Ketelaere 57th, 59th) bt Liechtenstein: 0; Wales: 7 (Wilson 18th pen, 75th, 81st pen, Brooks 21st, Johnson 37th, James 57th, Broadhead 88th) bt North Macedonia: 1 (Miovski 23rd).
CONCACAF: Haiti: 2 (Louicius 9th, Providence 45th+1) bt Nicaragua: 0; Jamaica: 0 drew with Curacao: 0; Panama: 3 (Blackman 17th, Davis 45th+4, Rodriguez 85th) bt El Salvador: 0.
ASIA: Iraq: 2 (Ali 66th, Al-Ammari 90th+17 pen) bt UAE: 1 (Caio 52nd).

Erigaisi exits WC

MANISHA MOHITE

Arjun Erigaisi

Tie-break resulted in heartbreak for India's Arjun Erigaisi as Wei Yi of China eliminated him in the quarterfinals of the FIDE World Cup which is at the concluding stages in Goa.

This was a sad result for Arjun as this also virtually shuts out all the doors to qualify for the elite eight-player Candidates tournament where the winner will challenge World Champion D Gukesh for the title. 22-year-old Arjun had ended up losing to R Praggnanandhaa at the same stage in the last edition as well.

In this tournament, Arjun was one of the most impressive players in the first five rounds, with a clean slate. It is ironic that the only loss he suffered resulted in his elimination.

This 206 player tournament started with 24 Indians in the fray but none of them could advance when it mattered most.

Arjun was the last Indian hope in this tournament as Gukesh and another hot favourite Praggnanandhaa had already been knocked out early.

Wei, Andrey Esipenko of Russia playing under the FIDE flag, Javokhir Sindarov and Nodirbek Yakubboev are the players to advance to the semifinals. Interestingly, three of them will make their debut at the Candidates.

Arjun was clearly not at his best in the first set of both the Rapid tie-break games.

Results of 6th Round Tie-break: Arjun Erigaisi (Ind) lt to Wei Yi (Chn); Martinez Alcantara(Mex) lt Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb); Andrey Esipenko bt Sam Shankland (USA).

Natasha, Harshitha win Jr state titles

BENGALURU, DHNS

Natasha Chethan and Harshitha Bhavi clinched the titles at the State Ranking Junior Women's Billiards and Snooker tournament, winning their respective finals with commanding performances.

In the junior women's billiards final, Harshitha secured the top spot with a 103-43 victory over Niyati P Aradhya, finishing as the No.1 player in the category. Natasha emerged champion in the junior women's snooker event, defeating Sameeksha Devan 2-0 in the final with frame scores of 63-11 and 49-18.

Harshitha also featured in the snooker section, earlier posting a 2-0 win over Tejana Reddy, but it was Natasha who ultimately claimed the No.1 ranking after a consistent run through the draw.

Results: Finals: Billiards: Harshitha Bhavi bt Niyati Aradhya 103-43. **Snooker:** Natasha Chethan bt Sameeksha Devan 63-11, 49-18 (2-0).

Natasha Chethan (left) and Harshitha Bhavi.

Vaindhiyathevan wins Rajyotsava Trophy

MYSURU RESULTS

Vaindhiyathevan, from the stables of KS Mandanna and ridden by C Umesh, won the Rajyotsava Trophy the feature event of the races on Wednesday.

1. Nanjangud Plate - 1200M: City Of Hustle (Jose Joseph) Dharshan Antony 1; Pearl Of Mysore (Prabhakaran) 2; Gentalman's Word (Shyam Kumar) 3; Clyde Star (Ankit Pal) 4; Wb: 7-1/4, 1-1/4, 3-1/4L. T: 1:13.94. TB: Aditya K. Fav: Eye The Mind.
2. Big Deal Plate -1400M: Golden Bird (Benhur Bhastekar) S Imran 1; Absolute Conquerer (Sai Kiran) 2; Polar Wind (Asirvatham) 3; Walter (A Agarwal) 4; Wb: 2, 1L, Lnk. T: 1:27.46. TB: Helleal Moses. Fav: Absolute Conquerer.
3. Fantasy Dream Plate (Div II) - 1200M: Balahaka (N Krishnamurty) Koshi Kumar 1; Adena (SG Prasad) 2; Selma (Srinath) 3; Noble Pursuit (Sai Kiran) 4; Wb: Nk, 3/4, 2-1/4L. T: 1:14.09. TB: Arvind V. Fav: Selma.
4. SM Attaollahi Memorial Trophy - 1200M: Mandolin (Sunil Santosh) Sachin 1; Sherpa (Alex Rozario) 2; Square Cut (Ramesh Kumar) 3; Moana (Shreyas Singh) 4; Wb: 1, 1-1/2, 1L. T: 1:13.60. TB: Helleal Moses. Fav: Moana.
5. Rajyotsava Trophy - 1400M: Vandhiyathevan (KS Mandanna) C Umesh 1; Confident Game (Srinath) 2; D Gold Star (Sai Kiran) 3; Mystic Divine (Abhishek Mhatre) 4; NR: Spectacular. Wb:1, Lnk, 1/2L. T: 1:26.02. TB: KS Mandanna. Fav: Kanya Rashi.
6. Fantasy Dream Plate (Div I) - 1200M: Beautiful Bloom (M Bobby) Prabhakaran 1; Seiko Katsu (C Umesh) 2; Knotty In Blue (SG Prasad) 3; Authentic Bell (S Imran) 4; Wb: 4-3/4, Lnk, 3/4L . T: 1:14.01. TB: M Bobby. Fav: Seiko Katsu.
7. BR Hills Plate - 1400M: Magic Circle (Sanjay Kothari) J Chinoy 1; Havelock Cruise (Akash Agarwal) 2; Sir Calculus (Alex Rozario) 3; Reign Of Terror (C Umesh) 4; NR: Time For Victory. Wb: 3, 1-1/2L, Lnk. T: 1:26.11. TB: Bipin Salvi. Fav: Magic Circle.
Bengaluru dividends
I race: Rs 58w; 17, 15, 20p; Fc: Rs 283; Q: Rs 141; Shp: Rs 37; Thp: Rs 57; Tri: Rs 679 & 322; Ex: Rs 3,586 & 1,332.
II race: Rs 74w; 18, 13, 14p; Fc: Rs 416; Q: Rs 172; Shp: Rs 34; Thp: Rs 44; Tri: Rs 459 & 219; Ex: Rs 3,991 & 3,079.
III race: Rs 38w; 15, 23, 10p; Fc: Rs 295; Q: Rs 148; Shp: Rs 61; Thp: Rs 64; Tri: Rs 605 & 151; Ex: Rs 1,716 & 1,006.
IV race: Rs 154w; 22, 24, 124p; Fc: Rs 3,080; Q: Rs 1,177; Shp: Rs 71; Thp: Rs 310; Tri: Rs 56,935: Ex: Rs 65,837 (c/o).
V race: Rs 115w; 42, 21, 10p; Fc: Rs 386; Q: Rs 217; Shp: Rs 35; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 5,703 & 6,111; Ex: Rs 55,959 & 23,982.
VI race: Rs 40w; 14, 18, 16p; Fc: Rs 139; Q: Rs 50; Shp: Rs 30; Thp: Rs 54; Tri: Rs 235 & 67; Ex: Rs 429 & 233.
VII race: Rs 21w; 13, 20, 23p; Fc: Rs 166; Q: Rs 152; Shp: Rs 71; Thp: Rs 51; Tri: Rs 1,134 & 617; Ex: Rs 3,622 & 2,439.
Jackpot: Rs 1,58,961 (2).
Runner-up: Rs 45,417 (3).
I treble: Rs 10,016 (6).
II treble: Rs 3,303 (3).

Good day for Indian shuttlers

SYDNEY, PTI: Five Indian shuttlers, including Lakshya Sen and HS Prannoy, dished out impressive performances to reach the men's singles second round at the USD 475,000 Australian Open Super 500 event here on Wednesday.

Lakshya, a 2021 World Championships bronze-medallist, outplayed Chinese Taipei's Su Li Yang 21-17, 21-13, while Prannoy, a runner-up here in 2023, recovered from a poor opening game to beat world No. 85 Yohanes Saut Marcellyno 6-21, 21-12, 21-17 in 57 minutes in the first round.

Commonwealth Games champion Lakshya will next face either Chi Yu Jen or Wang Tzu Wei.

The 33-year-old Prannoy, an Asian Games bronze-medallist and a 2023 World Championships bronze winner, will meet eighth seed Alwi Farhan of Indonesia.

World No. 32 Ayush Shetty, who claimed his maiden Super 300 title at the US Open earlier this year, eased past Canada's Sam Yuan 21-11, 21-15 in 33 minutes.

The 20-year-old from Karnataka will take on Kodai Naraoka of Japan.

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